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JPRS Report

Africa (Sub-Sahara)

Africa

(Sub-Sahara)

JPRS-SSA-88-029

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OPEC Offers \$8 Million to LDCs for Loans, Grant

34000652c Lagos *DAILY TIMES* in English
7 Jun 88 p 28

[Text] OPEC Fund for International Development has given 8.05 dollars [as published] to some least developed countries (LDC).

The amount is made up of 7.4 million dollars as loans for projects and 650,000 dollars grant for technical assistance.

Agency report said that the amount was approved by the governing board of the fund recently.

The loans approved under the Fund's Eight Lending Programme are for developing countries in Africa and Central America. Honduras will receive four million dollars for roads. Other financiers of the project are the Islamic Development Bank (29 million dollars) and the Government of Honduras with 12 million dollars.

Lesotho will receive two million dollars to finance the second phase of the rehabilitation of the Oxbow-Mikhotiong road project. Other financiers are the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the African Development Bank.

Senegal will receive 1.4 million dollars for a village and pastoral water supply project. Other financiers are the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa.

All loans carry annual interest rates ranging between 2.25 and 3.25 per cent plus one per cent service charges.

They are repayable in 17 years, including a five-year grace period.

The board also approved technical assistance grants totalling 650,000 dollars.

One hundred thousand dollars will go to the Third World Academy of Sciences in support of the establishment of wind erosion and sand transport laboratory at the University of Khartoum, Sudan.

Also 140,000 dollars to the United Nations High Commission for refugees in support of the special programme for refugees and displaced persons in North Yemen.

And 410,000 dollars for the development of Primary Health Care Services in the occupied territories of Palestine.

08309

ADB Increases Financing for Private Sector

34190128 Yaounde *CAMEROON TRIBUNE* in French
5, 6 Jun 88 p 6

[Text] The public and private sectors have always co-existed in Africa with major differences depending on the country. The prevalence of the public sector is related to the concerns of governments to assure control of national resources and to maintain a high level of employment. In the face of these realities the ADB (African Development Bank) intervened essentially on behalf of the economies of member countries by granting loans to the public sector.

Despite this the ADB allowed direct or indirect financing which benefited the African private sector in the fields of transportation, telecommunications, hydraulics and energy. To do this the African Bank has several means of intervention available.

Some lines of credit are open to national and subregional development banks and are designed to be given back to the small- to medium-sized firms in the private sector. The bank also takes part in different financial institutions for development. In addition to this, the bank provides technical assistance in organizing seminars for their representatives.

To further the development of the private sector, the ADB created along with the UNDP (UN Development Program) and the SFI (International Financial Institution), The Service for Promoting Investments in Africa (APDF) whose objective is to aid the small- to medium-sized African industries.

It has been established that unlike exporters of African countries, those of other developing areas benefit from numerous opportunities in matters of export credits. Aware of this fact, Babacar Ndiaye, president of the ADB, called for a "study on the possibility of creating an African Export-Import Bank" during a meeting on 18, 19 February.

Babacar Ndiaye recognizes that all these measures to contribute to the growth of the private sector are inadequate. This is why this action must be supported by businessmen who are confronted with the realities of the private sector in an often unfavorable situation.

Businessmen can put their experience and their know-how into establishing and developing African and furthering the economic integration of private African enterprises.

This interaction between local businessmen will allow them to be in a favorable position when they negotiate with their counterparts of industrialized nations in order to give a greater impulse to the flux of private investments in Africa, in the mutual interest of both parties.

ECOWAS To Establish Joint Venture Airline
34000652a Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English
2 Jun 88 p 3

[Text] An ECOWAS airline is to be promoted by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), an activity report of the ECOWAS department of transport, communications and energy has said.

The report, which was made available to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos yesterday, said that discussions were currently going on between the Federation of West African Chambers of Commerce and ECOWAS to promote the establishment of the airline.

According to the report, the ECOWAS airline will be a joint venture between existing airlines and the private sector in the sub-region.

The creation of the airline, it said, "is to further improve the operation of airlines in order to enhance intra-community trade in the sub-region."

The report noted that despite the co-operation arrangement among existing airlines, travelling by air in the sub-region was most difficult compared with other sub-regions in Africa.

"This has seriously affected intra-community trade," it added.(NAN)

08309

Okpere Cautions African Nations on Civil Aviation Problems
34000652b Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English
7 Jun 88 pp 1, 3

[Article by Clement Eluaka]

[Text] The Minister of Aviation, Air Vice-Marshal Anthony Okpere, said yesterday in Lagos that the aviation industry in Africa is saddled with many problems which should be tackled by decisive and concrete action.

Speaking at the opening of the 82nd executive committee meeting of the African Airlines Association (AFRAA) at the Sheraton Hotel, Ikeja, Air Vice-Marshal Okpere said that the problems of African airlines were that they could not buy new equipment, could not build their own maintenance centres, acquire technological and managerial skills because there was no foreign exchange for overseas courses.

The minister also warned that "very soon, we would be unable to keep those men whom we have trained at government expense because we cannot pay them competitive salaries," adding that this could make them to move to other parts of the world in search of greener pastures.

He urged the AFRAA to direct its collective effort towards coordinated growth of regional air transport systems.

The minister noted that though the aviation industry was vital to overall socio-economic development for which reason government would try its best to provide air transport for its people, it should be clear that the days when government maintained airlines for international prestige were gradually easing out.

This, he said, was because African governments have several economic problems, including huge foreign debts, adding that they were no longer as sentimental as they used to be about establishing national airlines.

Air Vice-Marshal Okpere explained that he was not painting a bleak picture of the aviation industry in Africa but that it was better to speak of the reality of the moment.

He was, however, optimistic that the AFRAA was equal to the challenges ahead.

Members of AFRAA's executive committee include Kenya Airways, Egypt Air, Air Afrique, Zambia Airways, Air Gabon and Nigeria Airways.

08309

SADF Releases Information on Military Situation
34000651b Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English
May 88 pp 8-12

[Text] The South African Defence Force has released information concerning the South African involvement in Angola and this report is based on this information and the maps and photographs are those released by the SADF.

The information covers the period from July 1987 until March 1988 and includes two specific South African Defence Force operations. For the period from July until December 15, 1987 operations were conducted under the code-name "Operation Hooper." Intelligence revealed that during March 1987 FAPLA was busy stockpiling arms in both their Sixth and Third Military Regions with headquarters at Menongue and Luena and that substantial troop re-inforcements were taking place in these areas. In addition large quantities of sophisticated Soviet military equipment was being unloaded at Launda, almost on a daily basis. Intelligence also revealed that the town of Lucusse, south of Luena in the Third military region was being developed as forward base for an attack on the towns Cassamba and Cangamba. While further south in the Sixth Military Region Cuito Cuanavale was being stockpiled for an attack on the main UNITA stronghold of Jamba with the primary target the UNITA held town of Mavinga. The FAPLA attack on the north was a total failure, as elements of the UNITA forces carried out a flanking movement and were able to attack the logistical tail of these columns and then engage the forward elements with artillery and infantry weapons. These columns were forced by the UNITA actions to retreat back to Lucusse, the SADF did not support the UNITA operations in this FAPLA military region, Military Region 3.

On August 14, 1987 FAPLA launched their assault directed at Mavinga, which had been preceded by a dramatic increase in air supply missions to the town of Cuito Cuanavale. In addition the one FAPLA brigade (25 Brigade) which was based at Tumpo had been reinforced by the introduction of a further four brigades into the area. Namely 21, 16, 47 and 59 Brigades by August 14. Cuito Cuanavale was also reactivated as a Frontline Command post and the FAPLA bridge head along the Cuito River was being extended at the rate of several kilometres per day.

Up to this stage the SADF support to UNITA was extremely limited and included assistance with the development of an anti-armour plan (Mine Fields?) to neutralise the Soviet AFVs, with elements of the South African Defence Force available should UNITA request any assistance of this nature.

However at this point a new element for the support of UNITA was introduced, this took the form of the deployment of South African Artillery south of the Lomba River to supply along range fire on UNITA's request.

The FAPLA attack advanced along two lines, the Eastern advance from Chaminga followed the Eastern bank of the Cunzumbia River to the confluence with the Lomba River and from there towards Mavinga. This route was followed by the 16 and 21 Brigades. The Western Advance started from the areas of the sources of the Hube, Vimpulo and Mianei Rivers and then to the source of the Cuizizi River. From there down the Eastern bank of the Cuizizi to Lomba and from on towards Mavinga. The 47 and 59 Brigades followed this route. The drill followed by the FAPLA forces involved moving through thick brush and avoiding open areas, which slowed down their advance to about 4 kilometers per day, and at 16h00 each day the brigades halted and dug in in well camouflaged positions. These brigades were supported by AFVs, anti-aircraft defence systems including SAM-8 ground to air missiles.

At this time the decision was taken that a SADF mechanised element would be used to assist in stopping the advance of the 47 FAPLA Brigade south of the Lomba river and those elements which were able to cross were decimated by the UNITA supported by elements of the SADF and South West Africa Territory Force (SWATF). On September 13 and 14 six battles took place ending in the flight of a FAPLA tactical group after the loss of 382 men killed, together with six tanks and other vehicles and equipment. During these engagements the SADF lost 6 men, 3 APCs with 2 more damaged.

The FAPLA offensive was effectively halted on October 3, when the remnants of the 47 Brigade under cover of darkness fled northwards to link up with the 59 Brigade. During this battle FAPLA lost 250 men and the following equipment was either destroyed or captured:

120 Logistical vehicles, 18 Tanks, 16 APCs, 6 122mm artillery guns, 5 Armoured Reconnaissance Vehicles, 3 Anti-aircraft batteries, 3 Infantry Combat Vehicles, 1 SAM-8 System, 2 Surface-to-Air-Missile-Systems (SA-9)

At this stage the tactical position was that the FAPLA 21 and 16 Brigades were deployed at the source of the Chaminga River, while the 59 Brigade supported by a tactical group was located between the Vimpulo and Mianei Rivers. The FAPLA offensive had now been turned into a general retreat, a major factor in these engagements was the introduction of the South African G5 155mm gun which with its long range and accuracy was able to interdict the FAPLA forces. At about this time, for the first time since the second World War African tanks were ordered into action. During this period, 9 and 16 November 1987, South African Forces that were engaged in support of UNITA against FAPLA in the area of the source of the Chaminga and Hube Rivers lost 16 men. While the combined Western Forces (SADF/SWATF/UNITA) killed a further 500 plus FAPLA-Cuban-Soviet troops and captured or destroyed:

33 Tanks, 15 APCs, 111 Logistical vehicles, 3 SA-13 Surface-to-Air Missile Systems

Cuito Cuanavale had now become within range of the South African artillery (G5s) and the continual bombardment rendered the vital airstrip unusable.

By mid-December 1987 "Operation Hooper" was under way and the Angolan command was committing more troops—including Cubans to the front—supported by T62 Main Battle Tanks. It is obvious that the SADF had no wish to occupy Cuito Cuanavale and become committed to having maintained a holding force there, instead they became involved in an operation to clear the area between the Cuatir 11 and Chaminga Rivers of the remaining FAPLA forces thereby reducing the threat to UNITA. At 18h00 on January 3, 1988 contact was made with the FAPLA 21 Brigade and two hours later the UNITA forces were in full control of the area.

In this operation the FAPLA dead numbered 250, while their losses included:

7 Tanks destroyed, 5 Tanks captured, 2 M46 155mm artillery guns captured, 1 BTR60 APC destroyed, 2 M21 MRLs destroyed, 7 Logistical vehicles destroyed, 2 Logistical vehicles captured

During this attack the SADF suffered no losses, 21 Brigade retreated to Tumpo where it regrouped, was reinforced and re-equipped and later launched a counter attack regaining their old positions from UNITA.

The next attack was that launched against FAPLA's 59 Brigade at 14h00 on February 14 and lasted until 17h30 on the same afternoon with the routing of this FAPLA Brigade. The 59 Brigade regrouped and later mounted a counter attack which was unsuccessful. During this battle the enemy lost about 230 men while the following equipment was either captured or destroyed:

9 Tanks, 4 BRDM APCs, 7 23mm anti-aircraft guns, 5 BM 21s, 1 SA-9 surface to air missile system.

During the counter attack the SADF losses were 4 men when 5 Ratel MPCs and 2 tanks were hit by enemy fire.

After this engagement FAPLA's 21, 25 and 59 Brigades abandoned their positions and withdrew to the Tumpo base. On the night of 25 February UNITA supported by SADF forces attacked FAPLA positions south of the Tumpo River, while at the same time UNITA, supported by a mechanised element attacked enemy positions at Dala. During this attack, over difficult terrain, the SADF had three men KIA when 4 SADF tanks ran into a mine field and 2 Ratels were hit by enemy fire.

During this period UNITA forces had been engaged in a number of other operations against FAPLA bases elsewhere in Angola. To a large extent operation in Angola are controlled by difficult terrain, the lack of infrastructure—roads are virtually non-existent and tracks are few and far between—and either too much water in the form of rivers, or none at all. An important factor was the

ability of UNITA to limit the effectiveness of the Angolan Air Force with their surface to air missiles. The speed of the withdrawal of the SADF from the area was obviously controlled by the ability of the UNITA Forces to occupy and hold areas that they were being vacated by the SADF/SAWTF. [as published]

During the recent conflict in Angola of SADF troops engaged in the area at no time exceeded 3,000 with 31 being killed in action. The material losses included:

3 Tanks, 4 Infantry Combat Vehicles, 1 Fighter aircraft, 1 Light aircraft

FAPLA losses are estimated as being 4,786 killed in action and equipment losses as follows:

4 MIG-21 aircraft, 8 MIG-23 aircraft, 2 SU-22 aircraft, 8 Helicopters, 94 Tanks, 2 BTS-4, 9 BMP-1, 32 BRDM-2, 65 BTR-60, 3 BM-14, 33 BM-21, 3 B-10, 1 120mm MOR, 14 82mm MOR, 4 60mm MOR, 7 AGS-17, 3 GRAD 1-P, 7 TMM Bridges, 372 Log Vehicles, 7 SA-8 MIS Systems, 3 SA-9, 5 SA-13, 33 SA14/16, 11 D-30, 4 M-46, 20 ZU-23-4, 5 Bunker Vehicles, 4 Radio Vehicles, 5 Radar Systems

/9274

Representative to Peace Talks Seen As Powerful Adviser

34000651a Johannesburg THE STAR in English
17 May 88 p 21

[Article by Joao Santa Rita]

[Text] One of the members of the Angolan delegation who attended last week's Brazzaville peace talks with South Africa is one of the most powerful men in the Luanda government.

He is Colonel Jose Maria who was officially described as an adviser to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

In fact, Colonel Maria is head of the top secret Military Counter5 Intelligence services (CIM) and is one of the closest confidants of President dos Santos.

When President dos Santos visited Portugal last year, Colonel Maria was the only member of the Angolan delegation who was present at the peace talks that President dos Santos held with Portuguese Prime Minister Mr Cavaco Silva.

The CIM services are independent from the Angolan government's security police, and its officers are said to be trained at a special school in Viana on the outskirts of Luanda. Cuban officers are reported to run the school.

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ANGOLA

CIM workers closely with all the branches of the Angolan armed forces, and CIM officers are said to be assigned to each of the Angolan army's brigades to keep a close watch on the activities of the officers.

Very little is known about the political background of Colonel Maria who, because of his position, is understood to wield considerable influence over President dos Santos.

/9274

Regime Officials Said To Be Involved in Drug Smuggling Scandal

34000649a Ikeja AFRICAN CONCORD in English
3 May 88 pp 10-11

[Article by Paul Michaud]

[Text] A high ranking Beninois envoy to Moscow has been convicted of being the leader of an international drug and art smuggling ring. Together with six Soviet citizens, Totin Fassinou, Second Secretary of the Benin Embassy in Moscow, was sentenced to five years hard labour following a behind-closed-door trial in February which is sure to be an embarrassment to the Benin Government. Fassinou used his diplomatic privileges—namely his diplomatic pouch—to smuggle Russian treasures to the U.S. which had been bought with cash made through the sale of illicit drugs. And it was all apparently done with the approval of top officials in Cotonou.

In a modern day variation of the 18th Century Golden Triangle trade in slaves, Fassinou's three-sided smuggling operation involved hashish grown in Benin—its extensive cultivation apparently inspired by President Kerekou's 1974 statement "anything that brings in money is good"—then shipped to Europe.

This was done with the help of Ferfinand Hounssougbo, the son-in-law of Kerekou's marabout, Mamadou Cisse. Hounssougbo did this conveniently because he holds a diplomatic passport. Dollars from the sale of the drugs were then sent by diplomatic pouch to Moscow to buy valuable works of art. The pouch was again used to smuggle these out of the USSR to U.S. Benin Embassy in Bonn and then Cotonou, the Beninois capital.

How did a diplomat who would normally enjoy immunity from prosecution come to be tried and sentenced in the first place? Following extensive investigations, it was learnt that Fassinou's sentence was in fact a compromise between the Beninois and Soviet authorities. Smuggling offences usually carry the death penalty or life imprisonment. Fassinou only received five years hard labour. The Soviet Union, it would appear, has chosen to use the scandal to slap Kerekou firmly on the wrists in an attempt to stem his steady drift towards the West. And

no doubt they used rural development minister, Martin Azonhiho Dohou to place additional pressure on the President. Dohou is an ardent socialist close to Moscow.

Mentioned as beneficiaries of [the] drug ring are such dignitaries of the Kerekou regime as Ifede Simon Ogouma, head of the Foreign Affairs Department at the National Revolutionary Assembly (therefore the country's "super"—minister of foreign affairs), Guy Landry Hozoume, the minister of foreign affairs and co-operation, Romain Vilon Gezo, the president of the NRA, as well as Benin's ambassadors to Moscow, Bonn and Washington: Laleye Ibitecho Isidore, Buy-Mory Moussa and Tonakpo-Cratien Cakpo Chi-Chi, all considered very close to Kerekou.

Bigwigs of the Kerekou regime were also involved in another recently revealed, international scandal which involved the 'Ganvie,' the country's unique merchant-marine class vessel. Visiting ports in France (Le Havre) and Belgium (Antwerp) every two and a half months, it has proven to be a very lucrative source of income for Benin's leading officials. They are able to order merchandise (TV sets, refrigerators, furniture, wax cloth, etc.) from European stores, especially those in Paris, then re-import the items into Benin where they are sold generally at twice their purchase price.

Besides making a 100 percent profit, the officials pocket the value added tax (usually 33 percent) that is eventually refunded by the stores. They also avoid having to pay excise duties presently in force in the Port of Cotonou on luxury goods imported into the country. A television set, for example, is bought for 4,000 French francs in Paris, then resold for 8,000 francs in Cotonou in stores owned by the officials but run usually by their mistresses. One store, allegedly owned by the President, is operated by a lady who is incidentally one of the country's top parliamentarians.

Benin Republic, a former French colony that became independent in 1960, was jolted recently by a coup attempt. Fifteen military officers were jailed as masterminds behind the botched coup against Kerekou's 16-year-old government.

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Price Stabilization Measures Take Effect
Yaounde CAMEROON TRIBUNE in French
2 Jun 88 p 5

[Text] A presidential decree of 22 January 1988 created a Stabilization Fund to harmonize the prices of rice, sugar, and refined table oil. Subsequently on 1 February the minister of what was then Commerce and Industry signed a decree establishing methods for enforcing this mechanism.

All measures decreed by the government within the context of reform procedures for rice, sugar and refined table oil went into effect today [2 June]. According to a general information notice made public last April by the former Ministry of Commerce and Industry, this mechanism will be implemented gradually and in several phases.

The private sector will import about 113,000 tons of rice and 48 million liters of refined table oil from 2 May 1988 until 15 February 1989. Since sugar production covers local needs for the most part, importation of this product will be decided by the International Stabilization Committee if local production should drop.

The Stabilization Fund for these products is administered by an interministerial committee and a secretary. The services of its members are not remunerated.

The Interministerial Committee for Stabilization is responsible for fixing the equalization tax rate, establishing plans for supplying the local market depending on production and consumption needs, fixing import quotas authorized for each semester, and setting consumer prices and the selling price of locally produced goods.

The decree of the former Ministry of Commerce and Industry states that the equalization tax will be collected through customs at the same time as custom dues or similar procedures are administered on all goods concerned except those on official transit to Chad and Central African Republic.

Financial Agreements for Rural Development Signed With France

34190126 *Yaounde CAMEROON TRIBUNE in French*
5, 6 Jun 88 p 6

[Text] Five financial agreements amounting to 971 million CFA francs were signed last Friday between France and Cameroon in the ceremonial hall of the Ministry of Planning and Regional Development in Yaounde. Elixabeth Tankeu signed the document on behalf of Cameroon. George Martres, head of the French mission for cooperation represented the French Government. The agreements will assist in the realization of Cameroonian agricultural, cultural and energy projects.

The first such project, the most costly, is funded at 450 million CFA francs. The project is related to the diversification and intensification of agricultural and livestock activities in the cotton zone. It will consist more specifically, in creating a specialized research station in the area immediately surrounding the village of Garoua. Furthermore, it will involve training Cameroonian researchers and farmers, and support agricultural development in the Northern province. The project will thus lead, among other things to the diversification of activities in this zone and will assure farmers permanent sources of revenue.

The second agreement, amounting to 50 million CFA francs will serve to launch the operational phase of the soya project in Southern Cameroon. French aid for this program reached approximately 400 million francs since other financing had already been granted beforehand. In this way the French government participates in improving the living standards of the rural population. This fits in with government priorities, as Elizabeth Tankeu emphasized, in its desire to strengthen self-sufficiency in food [and] improve the nutritional state of the population.

The third agreement, in the amount of 300 million CFA francs, will provide for a pilot project examining hydroelectric development on the Boni Warak, north of the country. It will also involve increasing energy production in the southern part of the country and satisfying energy needs at the best price, thus increasing energy output in the interconnecting network in the North. Here the number of Cameroonians with access to energy will be increased, thus improving their quality of life.

Professional Training

The same concern for the quality of life comes under the fourth and fifth agreements signed last Friday. The fourth involves a sum of 100 million CFA francs to provide technical support to the Ministry of Industrial and Commercial Development by establishing the National Office for Standardization and Quality. Through this arrangement Cameroon intends to provide a mechanism for quality control for products made by Cameroonian industries.

The fifth agreement, totaling 71 million CFA francs, will allow for the establishment of a public reading network. More precisely the money will be used for setting up and equipping reading rooms, and the training of library personnel by organizing local training courses in the fields of library science, management, bookbinding and promotion of rural development.

In view of these five agreements, one can only conclude with George Martres, head of the French delegation for cooperation, that cooperation between Cameroon and France is active and prospects for the future look promising.

Health Official on Current AIDS Situation
34190110a Yaounde CAMEROON TRIBUNE in
French 29 Apr 88 p 6

[Interview with Dr Lazare Kaptue, health director at the ministry of public health]

[Excerpts] Dr Lazare Kaptue is the health director at the ministry of public health. He is also the president of the National Aids Committee. The CAMEROON TRIBUNE met with him just after the first national conference on AIDS. He tells us here, mincing no words, about reported cases of AIDS in Cameroon: even the most skeptical should be convinced.

[Question] Cameroon has just held its first national conference on AIDS. Why has it taken so long to have one?

[Answer] We have a program of activities which we have established and are following in the struggle we have undertaken against AIDS. We could not begin with a conference at the national level before having given every provincial hospital AIDS-testing equipment. Also, we had to get our files thoroughly prepared. All in all, this first national conference on AIDS was not late at all.... In fact, it has come at a very good time.

[Question] You know that a number of people are still skeptical about the existence of AIDS in Cameroon?

[Answer] Such people are being completely irrational. You yourself are familiar with efforts we have been making for three years now to put out information about AIDS. And normally one would expect that after such a campaign the skeptics would be convinced. One might well ask whether those people who profess to doubt the existence of AIDS are being serious. I could give one reason for such incredulity: the fact that the AIDS virus is not very prevalent here. However, we have nevertheless published the figures on reported AIDS victims in Cameroon.

[Question] How many are there?

[Answer] Precisely 53 cases. The victims come from all over, from eight different provinces of the country. The only provinces which have not reported any cases of AIDS are North-West and South-West. So it is not just imagination, or an invention of the health ministry, when we talk about the existence of AIDS in Cameroon.

The skeptics should perhaps have seen photographs, or a film about the Cameroonian victims. We have thought about this, but we have not been able to obtain permission from our patients, who have refused to allow themselves to be filmed. And you know, it would be a violation of medical ethics to publish photographs or produce films about a patient without his agreement. Perhaps someday we will find patients who will be

willing to cooperate. That said, we are still going to continue our information campaign and efforts to sensitize the population to the problem.

[Question] Have you heard any news on the Egypto-Zairian MMI?

[Answer] Absolutely not, though I am personally acquainted with Dr Lurhuma, who is very distinguished, a great specialist in hematology and immunology. However, I must admit that I have not yet read a scientific paper on MMI, nor have I tried it on my patients. I prefer to reserve judgment on that subject.

[Question] But the press has given extensive coverage to the case of a Kenyan couple who were reportedly cured of AIDS last week....

[Answer] It is possible, but personally I am reserving judgment as to the results. Look, I was also in Brazzaville. Many people crossed the river to get cured in Kinshasa. But their situation did not improve. I am waiting to read a scientific article about MMI, and statistical data on its performance. Now if MMI turned out to be truly effective against AIDS, it would be a tremendously important discovery, one which would bring much honor to Dr Lurhuma, his Zairian homeland, and indeed all of Africa.

[Question] What is happening in terms of basic research on AIDS in Cameroon?

[Answer] Several AIDS projects are under way at the Pasteur Center in Yaounde. For example, they are making cultures of the HIV virus in order to identify the different sero-types found in our environment. Other research projects are aimed at identifying unknown AIDS factors—and not many of them have been identified so far. This is why, for example, we are trying to see whether HIV2, one of the two viruses that cause AIDS, exists in Cameroon. So far only HIV1 has been detected.

09516

Effects of AIDS Education Campaign Reported
34190110b Yaounde CAMEROON TRIBUNE in
French 20 Apr 88 p 5

[Article by R. D. Lebogo Ndongo]

[Text] AIDS. Mention it in a conversation and your companions will start getting nervous. The sickness upsets people. It involves all social strata.

Dr Penda Melone says he has been observing both "those who suffer (from AIDS) and those who are healthy." One thing the physician has noted is that information about AIDS has created a certain neurotic obsession. Worse still, the state of anxiety in which some people are living

has already reached a pathological intensity. For Dr Melone, these subjects (both diseased and healthy) are manifesting "confusion about their lives."

Melone, in order to prove his belief, has interviewed nearly a thousand students of both sexes aged 14 to 25. Eighty percent of them think that AIDS has changed sexual behavior in our society; 70 percent say they have changed their own sexual lifestyle; 30 percent claim they have not modified their sexual activities, and 10 percent see no prospect of change.

Neurotic Anxiety

All the same, the tragic effects are real. From his investigation Dr Melone ascertained that some 60 percent of the subjects suffer from chronic headaches. The doctor's explanation: these persistent headaches are the result of

a neurotic anxiety. The speaker said the primary cause of this neurosis is a "blockage of the libidinal impulse." More simply, the subjects have not had sexual relations for six months to a year. Some of these individuals, perhaps a majority, have only a vague understanding of sexual relations.

The education campaign against AIDS is especially destabilizing to the psychological equilibrium of these anxious individuals. They do not know which way to turn. In order to help such people, Dr Melone suggests a de-dramatization of public information about AIDS. This would raise the morale of disturbed individuals, though it might also increase their chances of catching AIDS. A vicious circle.

09516

**Former Renamo 'Commander' Surrenders,
Confesses Crimes**

*34420145b Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
14 May 88 p 8*

[Article by Salomao Moyana]

[Text] A young native of Catandica in the district of Barue, in Manica, was kidnapped one morning in 1979 by a group of armed men while he was on his way to his parents' farm plot. He was taken to Ian Smith's Rhodesia, where he was given military training at the Hodze camp. The training lasted 6 months, during which the young Mozambican was taught the art of killing his defenseless brothers. He attended theoretical classes in which he was inculcated with the idea that a phantom called "communism" prevailed in his country. He was told that men of "good sense" should prepare themselves seriously to liquidate this phantom and to establish some other system, one about which he knew nothing, called "capitalism." They told him that "capitalism" allows "an individual to have his own things," while on the other hand, "under communism, everything belongs to everyone, including the women." Only after 9 years of a bloody career, during which he rose to assume command tasks in the bandit gangs, did the young man from Catandica decide to surrender in order to "ask forgiveness for the crimes I committed," as he confessed to our reporter. He brought with him more than 20 of his "soldiers."

I am speaking of Modesto Sixpense, a "commander" feared because of the base nature of the crimes he committed and ordered committed while in the ranks of the armed bandits, who knew him by the nickname "Sabado" (Saturday).

Sixpense, or Sabado, is 27 years old now. He spent 9 of these years with the bandits. He has four wives and seven minor children. He was a bandit and a "company commander" until 11 January of this year, on which date he abandoned the path of crime to take advantage of the Amnesty Law passed by the People's Assembly last December.

He brought with him his four wives, his children and his "bodyguards." He and the "bodyguards" were armed when they presented themselves to the Mozambican authorities.

Sixpense is now a free citizen. He has exchanged the rags he was wearing for new clothing and shoes provided to him and his family by the Red Cross. This family now has a house in the 16 June quarter, in the environs of Chimoio, built with the support of the organizations against which Sixpense fought all throughout this decade.

He told me that he has already signed up to work with one of the city services, for, he said, he was a salesperson before he turned to armed banditry.

Sabado is not illiterate, and he speaks fairly good Portuguese. He related that after his military training, he went to the Lutanda post in the Mucuti zone, in Manica. Later he went to Sussundenga, and still later, to Mussambuizi.

In all of these places, the mission of the groups in which the young man served was to carry out attacks on the minor positions of the Armed Forces of Mozambique, the communal settlements and the consumer and production cooperatives.

Inciting Popular Revolt

"Our leaders always said that we should cut off the ears of the people and burn the communal settlements, schools and hospitals, so as to incite the people to revolt against the Frelimo government and to demand that it negotiate with us," he said. He added that this "continues to be the main line of the actions of the bandits."

He said that when the Mucuti base was attacked by the Armed Forces, the band departed for Mawati, and when it was attacked, it fled to Sitatonga, near Espungabera. When Sitatonga was taken by the Mozambican Army, Sabado went to the Casa Banana in the district of Gorongosa, in Sofala, where he was appointed commander of a platoon of bandits in 1982.

"Then I was assigned, along with 'Commander' John Cumpenga, to attack Maringue, in the district seat. The first time, we lost many men and retreated. It was only on the second try, in 1983, that we succeeded in destroying many infrastructures, and we attacked the district headquarters," he said.

He added that he was transferred that same year to the district of Macossa, in the province of Manica, as a "company commander," in which capacity he carried out his responsibilities until the date he fled to surrender to the national authorities.

"I operated between Catandica and Guro. The mission assigned my 'company' was to attack small positions and to lay ambushes on the national highway linking Tete and Chimoio. We assassinated many individuals in these zones and stole large quantities of the peoples' goods, apart from what we obtained by ambushing civilian vehicles," he said.

I asked Sabado if he knew that the armed bandits are being directed by South Africa. He answered that he did. I asked him to explain his response, and he said:

"Last year, for example, a number of South African planes came to the Macossa district to bring explosives and antivehicle mines, and we received orders to place these mines on the road between Guro and Macossa and on the road between Tete and Chimoio. Some of the explosives were destined for the Cahora-Bassa Energy Plants in the Revue and Machaze areas."

Forcing the Frelimo To Talk

I asked Sixpense about the reason for the attack on the Cahora-Bassa Energy Plants, and he responded:

"It is so that the Frelimo government will have to spend a great deal of money on rebuilding, thus diverting the money which would be spent on equipping troops, and thus enabling us to advance. Also, our commanders say that by sabotaging the power lines, the foreigners can pressure the Frelimo to talk with the Renamo so that an agreement can be reached."

I then asked him why he fled.

"It was because none of the people there believe anymore that there will be a victory. From the time I joined in 1979, they promised us that we would have independence on 25 June, and later 25 September, every year. All of these dates are now long past, and there is great poverty at the bases. There is insufficient food, and there is no medical treatment. When an individual is sick, a witch doctor is called in, and often the people die and are buried any old way, without any ceremony. And also because when the bases are attacked, the commanders all abandon us and disappear."

Modesto Sixpense made a point of emphasizing that he killed many persons, "mainly those who tried to flee from the bases. I myself, if I had been caught trying to flee, would have been shot immediately. That is the order. We have members of the military counterintelligence and security there whose assignment is to watch the troops and check on everyone's movements."

At the end of my talk with Modesto Sixpense, I asked him what he thought about the future of the armed bandits' movement, and he answered:

"I think that everyone will take advantage of this Amnesty Law to flee, despite the death threats made by the commanders. When I fled, I was followed by more than 20 of my soldiers, who are here at this center. Still others are going to escape, because no one believes in this victory."

"For myself, I will ask forgiveness of the Frelimo for the crimes I committed, and I want to work to show that I am a normal man who was kidnapped by the armed bandits. My soldiers, who fled later, tell me that my escape caused great uncertainty, and that there are many who want to come here. I think they will."

Amnesty Brigades Responsible for Verifying Decree Implementation

34420146b Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
17 May 88 p 8

[Text] A brigade of the Central Coordinating Committee for Implementation of the Laws of Amnesty and Reprieve, led by Minister of Security Mariano Matsinhe, was recently in Gaza to look into the degree of compliance with and application of this law. During this period, the brigade had the opportunity to visit some reception centers for people who have been granted amnesty, and to meet with provincial and district committees in Xai-Xai and Chibuto.

In Chibuto, Minister Matsinhe and his retinue gratefully acknowledged the work of the district committee. At the meeting, the central brigade gave clear briefings aimed at improving the committee's work.

Notwithstanding the irregularities that were observed, the brigade led by the minister of security praised the work of the Gaza officials for their determination, and was encouraged to intensify its actions even more in order to mobilize the people and also the Defense and Security Forces, with the purpose of guaranteeing the success of the law which is now in force.

"Amnesty is a political weapon. That is why the military in particular should assume a healthy conscience, because they are the first to receive the benefits of this law. We must have a warm heart and a cool head to solve our problems," emphasized Mariano Matsinhe during the closing session in the district headquarters of Chibuto.

At that meeting, the central brigade stressed the need to adopt efficient methods of applying the amnesty law, taking into account the current momentum of our revolution.

It should be pointed out that, in Chibuto, the Central Coordinating Brigade for Implementation of Amnesty had the opportunity to talk with two former bandits who recently turned themselves in to local authorities.

These two citizens told the minister of security about several acts of terrorism that they had carried out during the period that they were members of the armed bandits.

These two individuals, one of whom is a minor, lived with the bandits for nearly a year and fled after the destruction of the base at Nhanala last December.

"We feel satisfied to be with our family members," the two citizens stated, answering a question posed by Minister Mariano Matsinhe. The two recipients of amnesty are natives of Chibuto and had been kidnapped last year by the armed bandits.

It should be stated that a total of 45 former armed bandits have turned themselves in between January and April in Gaza. The majority of these are from the Chibuto district.

Leading the same brigade, the minister of security is to arrive today [17 May 1988] in Inhambane province, where he will remain for several days to observe the work that is being carried out within the framework of applying the Law of Amnesty and the Law of Reprieve.

Work in Zambezia

More than 280 armed bandits were granted amnesty in the province of Zambezia in the first 4 months of this year; most have been sent to their native regions to be reunited with their respective families.

This information was given to Minister of Information Teodato Hunguana by the Provincial Committee for Applying the Amnesty Law in Zambezia during a meeting held recently with its members in the city of Quelimane.

A report presented on that occasion said that in the first 4 months of the current year nearly 6,300 individuals living in the areas affected by the armed bandits had presented themselves.

Most of these came to our authorities in the districts of Chinde and Namacurra. These individuals are currently engaged in reorganizing their lives.

The document stressed the fact that the increase in the number of bandits that are turning themselves in results from the impact of publicizing the amnesty law. This law has been publicized by the provincial authorities over the airwaves of RM [Radio Mozambique] in Quelimane and Nampula, and through pamphlets, among other locally available means.

On the other hand, he pointed out that this work has led the people and the Armed Forces of Mozambique to grasp the true meaning of the law.

Teodato Hunguana, the minister of information who was heading a brigade from the Central Coordinating Committee for the Application of the Amnesty Law, said during the meeting that the law's political scope is more evident now than it was at the time of its approval.

Zambezia Governor Carlos Agostinho do Rosario was present at the meeting in his capacity as president of the provincial committee, among other members of this organization.

Speculation on Impact of Possible Discovery of Oil

34420146d Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
20 May 88 p 8

[Commentary by Albino Magala in "Xitende" column]

[Text] Sometimes there is a news story that hits us right in the heart, making it pound wildly even though the story has nothing to do with us personally. You, dear reader, may have also read one of these news items in the pages of this newspaper. This story dealt with the beginning of exploratory drilling for oil, something that prompted even the prime minister and the British ambassador to go to the coast of Xai-Xai, Gaza, where this delicate work is under way.

Officials in the petroleum sector were cautious in their statements, sidestepping the question of whether there is oil in that area, and viewing the matter with a cool, detached professionalism tinged with pragmatism, like someone saying: "Drill? Well yes, you can drill...but oil? Take it slowly, we will see...." And this caution, this cool, professional detachment is not a product of our imagination. Everywhere in the world it is like this when the question of looking for oil is at stake. Petroleum is a strategic product par excellence, in this case one capable of radically transforming the economic balance in southern Africa and of turning the Mozambique Canal into an epicenter of attention, because it would then cease being just an oil transport route and become an oil producing area as well.

That is why it is reasonable to ask: What would happen if there were oil in Mozambique?

Some of the logical consequences of such an occurrence are predictable and others are unpredictable. It is predictable that all the countries of the so-called "hinterland" of southern Africa would breathe a sigh of relief, because the question of petroleum (gasoline, heating oil and other derivatives) is their Achilles' heel. Since it is a member of SADCC [South African Development Coordination Conference], Mozambique would not stop giving preference to its associates when marketing its oil, all the more so since, when our refinery was running at 100 percent, we were already selling the finished product (refined by us) to the "hinterland."

Solidification of our economy would be another logical consequence of the discovery of oil, because even before commercial exploration of oil got under way, credit would become readily available; no one is afraid of lending money to someone who he knows will pay him back, and pay him back with interest.

It is obvious that if Angola did not have oil, it would have much more difficulty meeting the economic costs of the war that it is waging to defend its sovereignty. It is obvious that if it were not for oil, Nigeria would not be the African power that it is, its other immense mineral

and agricultural wealth notwithstanding. It is obvious that if it were not for oil, the Iran-Iraq war would have already ended. There are many arrogant politicians in this world whose breath reeks of oil....

With the discovery of oil, our foreign debt would cease to terrify us, and the prospect of bequeathing a mortgaged nation to our children would be increasingly remote, if not definitively out of the picture.

South Africa spends millions of dollars every year converting mineral coal into oil, buying oil abroad by using the most intricate subterfuges, buying off people's consciences, transforming former mines into petroleum storage facilities, etc.

South Africa has undeniable power in terms of its petroleum reserves, more so since it is these reserves that produce that power. If oil were to appear in Mozambique, it would be likely to keep the strategists of apartheid awake at night.

At this point, we come back to what has previously been said: If the Mozambique Canal is already pointed to at all the meetings of the world powers when they are discussing questions of transporting oil from the Gulf to the West, and if it is already considered a strategic area (and is for that reason sprinkled with more or less well known military bases and is traversed by warships flying flags from almost all the major powers), if it had oil, it would be marked in red; that is, it would be considered a nerve center.

With things seen in this light, it is more than obvious that the hypothesis of the discovery of oil in Mozambique is not such a simplistic and banal thing. One understands the caution that envelops the statements being made by officials.

Economists may say that this optimism with regard to an economic boom based on petroleum is false and dangerous, because Brazil, for example, produces oil but has the biggest foreign debt in Latin America. Nigeria produces oil and it too has its foreign debt. And many other examples could be cited to prove that oil is not a magical advantage. And this is true. But Mozambique is a scandalously rich country in its diversified mineral products and in its soils. The sum total of all this is that all the optimism is justified. Oil would be merely a decisive reinforcement.

So let it come and gush forth, spreading its exploration platforms and giving hope to this nation that is so tired of suffering.

Private Enterprises Form Own Economic Association

34420146a Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
25 May 88 p 3

[Article by Basilio Langa]

[Text] Mozambique's private enterprises have just created their own economic association (AEPRIMO) under a 1982 law, confident of the fact that significant material aid from the West to the private sector will pass through the organization.

The law authorizing the creation of economic associations in Mozambique does not prohibit their grouping together state and private enterprises, but AEPRIMO chose not to do so, under the state article [text missing] higher than 51 percent, including foreign and cooperative [enterprises].

The statutes make an exception for firms that have the participation of foreign capital, as of this year over 49 percent.

In an interview with AIM [Mozambique Information Agency], the president of the board of directors of AEPRIMO, Anuario Mussagi Ibraimo, stated that opening the organization to state-run enterprises was discussed during the preparatory stages of the constituent conference, but that the conclusion was reached that this "is not advisable."

Ibraimo gave the justification that AEPRIMO needs to delineate clearly the "authenticity of its private character, just as it wants nationalistic authenticity.

However, he observed that there are common objectives between the state and private sectors, namely in building the Mozambican nation and in the development of the national economy.

He said: "At this particularly acute moment, when our country is the victim of destabilization, the conjunction of efforts is always fundamental, and this is the viewpoint of the board of directors."

The entrepreneur emphasized the nationalistic character of AEPRIMO and pointed out that it is through thinking about the need to "safeguard national interests" that the association decided not to let firms become members if they have more than 51 percent foreign participation in their company capital.

"There is an important aspect that we cannot forget, and that is that the great majority of Mozambican entrepreneurs has arisen since national independence," he said. He went on to emphasize that the "Mozambican entrepreneur is the product of national independence."

Ibraimo pointed out the creation of AEPRIMO as the fruit of the first steps of the growth of a nationalistic private entrepreneurial class, at the same time that it is a "very important factor in energizing the country's private sector."

Ibraimo said that there are no guarantees that troublemakers will not infiltrate AEPRIMO. He added that this vulnerability was pointed out and discussed at the meeting.

In the entrepreneur's opinion, AEPRIMO's statutes are not lax regarding members whose activities go against the spirit of the association. He added that it will not defend or cover up acts considered specifically to be criminal under laws governing economic and commercial activities in the country.

"We are not going to do anything that will be against the government," he said, adding that in certain cases, "we can argue in the defense of national interests in order to find solutions."

The entrepreneur referred particularly to the national policy on imports in determined sectors of the economy, stressing that the association will not intervene in questions of commercial competition. "There must be competition so that there will be progress and so that we will not be condemned to a state of apathy," he said.

Line F of Article 6 of the statutes stipulates that AEPRIMO will intervene, when so requested, through means provided by the law, in defense of the "legitimate rights and interests" of its members.

"For example, is it not better to import raw rubber in order to put an already existing factory into operation rather than importing flip-flops?" he asked.

Some factories that manufacture clothing and footwear in Maputo are facing a difficult situation due to the fact that the stores are full of imported articles. Ibraimo agreed with the opinion of the authorities, which alleges that fabrics manufactured in the country are expensive and of low quality in comparison with imports.

"Now our factories have to fight," he observed, adding that even when the time comes that there is enough money to import everything, having to defend local interests, the laws of the marketplace will prevail, rewarding good work and penalizing bad.

The number of companies that have joined AEPRIMO from the creation of the association to the present is 227, with the majority in the southern part of the country. They are private firms from the various sectors of the economy, with the agricultural and cattle-raising sectors predominating.

The predominance of agricultural and cattle-raising enterprises is a reflection of the situation that has been created in the southern part of the country, especially in the province of Maputo, in which the private agricultural sector has dominated the state sector. The numbers are more revealing: There are nearly 550 private agricultural and cattle-raising units, compared to 20 operated by the State.

Sources connected to this sector have told AIM that state-run agricultural enterprises are being affected by the armed banditry that is being encouraged by the apartheid regime in Mozambique [as published]. These enterprises are being dissolved or transferred into private hands.

However, the private sector has been consolidating its positions and has been growing in inverse proportion, benefiting from the funding that has been directed exclusively to it by the American government in the last few years through its Agency for International Development (AID).

The president of AEPRIMO's board of directors himself, as an entrepreneur, has major interests in the agricultural and cattle-raising sector in the Maputo region.

According to Ibraimo, AEPRIMO is proof that, in spite of the socialistic character of the state in Mozambique, freedom for the exercise of private activity does exist in practice. He based his hope on probable outside support for the association, further stating that this support can be sent in whatever way necessary.

"We are also hoping for the government's help in obtaining support," he said, adding that the statutes provide for a projects sector, and it has access to personnel who can act as consultants.

Managerial training is one of the priorities of this first phase of the association's activities.

"We are also betting on the training of workers. We are all inexperienced and we have to learn to crawl on all fours in all aspects. One cannot expect a Mozambican entrepreneur to have the same ability as an Englishman or an American," he stressed.

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Inhambane Government Document Details Economic Achievements

*34420146c Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
21 May 88 p 8*

[Article by Bento Niquice]

[Text] "The analytical balance sheet of the degree of accomplishment of the Central State Plan and of the Economic Rehabilitation Program for 1987 in Inhambane presents encouraging results. Nevertheless, we still

must report the existence of some sectors that continue to demand more action in order to adjust to the country's current economic predicament."

These statements and others are expressed in a far-reaching official document that was prepared and made public by the government of that province.

According to the document, it can be said that in the evaluation of the state budget for last year, in terms of revenue Inhambane achieved a growth rate of 117 percent of its total goal with an increase on the order of 193 percent compared to 1986.

In the area of agriculture, efforts were made to take better advantage of low-lying lands for the production of some crops, particularly of vegetables.

However, the food situation for the people of that area of the country remains deplorable. It is estimated that nearly 567,000 people are afflicted by hunger. The hardest hit districts are Matibote, Funhalouro, Govuro, Massinga and Vilanculo.

Meanwhile, industrial production registered a total growth of 23.3 percent compared to 1986, which means that, in 1987, industrial activity in Inhambane experienced noticeable improvements thanks to the implementation of the Economic Rehabilitation Program in the sector.

On the other hand, transport and communications seems not to have achieved great successes, in light of the fact that there are great difficulties in moving and handling diverse return cargoes in the ships that stop at the local port. Furthermore, it suffices to say that the growth rate registered in this sector compared to 1986 was just 7 percent.

Construction and water experienced equally noticeable improvements, particularly relating to rural water supply and production of conventional and local construction materials.

Collecting Revenue

The document from the provincial government of Inhambane says that out of the central budget, total revenues in an amount that surpassed 758,000 contos had been projected for 1987. This corresponds to 117.4 percent of the projected goal.

Of the revenues whose collections (goals) exceeded projections, the ones that stand out are industrial, price differential, and stamp tax contributions, with percentages that run between 193 and 180, for the former and the latter.

Meanwhile, in the component made up of taxes on circulation, construction, textiles, clothing and footwear, and real estate assessments, revenue goals were not exceeded due to various factors, among which the following stand out:

"A late start in publicizing new rates, insufficient supplies of consumer goods to the province, damage caused by the destruction of assets (means of transport, merchandise, commercial outlets) by the armed bandits."

In some of its chapters, however, the document from the provincial government of Inhambane tells of some sectors that still need a whole series of actions that in the future may contribute to their economic and financial improvement.

9895

Self-Help Efforts Converting Infulene Swamps Into Rice Fields

34420145a Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
17, 18 May 88

[Article by Antonio Souto]

[17 May 88 p 2]

[Text] About a year ago, Prime Minister Mario Machungo met with the peasants in the Infulene Valley, and he reiterated the party and state guarantee of the right to use the plots of land which would be allocated to them. Priority would be given in this distribution to those who had worked and would continue to work for the recovery and maintenance of this swampy zone.

Today, although the distribution and recovery of the land has not yet been completed, approximately 120 to 130 hectares are covered with rice fields, which are already beginning to be harvested. The putrid smell of the swamp and the croaking of the frogs in Infulene have been replaced by the smell of damp, plowed land and the clatter heard as dozens of women beat on tin cans to scare the birds away from their rice fields. Life has returned to the land in the valley.

The secret of the valley's return to productive life is not to be found in great files full of maps, estimates, assessments and technical recommendations. We saw this secret in action when we visited the area a few days ago and observed the arduous work being done by some 300 peasants, the overwhelming majority of them women, in clearing the last ditches.

The Secret of the Rice Fields

The group songs of the workers and the rhythmic movement of the pitchforks, rakes and hoes have done what powerful machinery could not achieve with technology. The desire to have a plot of land to guarantee the subsistence of the family and the satisfaction of receiving

a bit of soap or sugar in exchange for intensive labor have replaced the financial burden of the costly investments the economy of the country cannot support. This is the secret of the Infulene rice fields.

It is, therefore, in the scarcest resource in our economy that economies are most needed—the investments which involve foreign exchange expenditures. The expenditures on this Infulene recovery project include \$15,000 on a weed-clearing vessel and another \$6,000 for the building of a system of sluiceways and the wages of an Italian hydraulic technician.

This relatively small investment led to the success which is evident there today, not because it involved new formulas, but simply because it was linked in balanced fashion with the priority goals of the people and with the quality and quantity of the most abundant resource, which is at the same time the most decisive factor in the completion of this undertaking.

Where quantity is concerned, first of all, there was vast manpower available in the thousands of idle members families living near the valley. Secondly, where quality is concerned, there was the collective labor experience developed there in recent years, in particular thanks to the farm production cooperatives, and more recently, the peasant service cooperatives (which have now been renamed associations).

The linking of these resources in a program supported by Cooptecnital, an Italian Cooperative League enterprise, and coordinated by the Green Zones Office, with the cooperation of the Maputo General Cooperative Union and the Peasant Associations, began in February of 1987.

For 3 months, work was done on clearing the river with the aid of a small weed-clearing vessel operated by a group of Mozambicans trained for the purpose. The placement of the sluiceways which would subsequently prevent seawater from coming in at high tide was also undertaken.

The First Aspect of the Secret

In reality, although important, the weed-clearing vessel was merely an auxiliary mechanism.

It was a technical resource which made it possible to cut the reeds along the main ditch more quickly. However, the clearing of this ditch and the recovery or rebuilding of some of the secondary ditches, as such, were done by a group of 1,250 volunteers mobilized from among the population. They contributed a total of approximately 40,000 work hours during the first 3 months.

Among the many factors about which we were told, or which we could observe, all of which pointed up the decisive role played by the quality of the "know-how" possessed by this labor force, was the way in which the

volunteers organized the distribution of the tasks. Also, the fact that many of the volunteers did selfless work on such arduous tasks as their many consecutive hours of labor in swampy water above their waists serves as an illustration of the strength of this organization with a community base.

One of the Italian technicians who collaborated in this program recalled: "It was not possible, under those conditions, to make a precise topographic survey. But at least a certain approximate estimate was needed in order to lay out the drainage systems. This became possible when we questioned the people about the water level at certain points. They informed us that it reached waist level at a certain place, while at another point it was shoulder high, etc. And this gave us enough of an idea of the topography of the terrain so that we could draft an outline of the drainage system."

Why and how would these hundreds of peasants agree to such massive sacrifices? The various answers we were able to obtain from numerous peasants came down to the following: "We accept it because we want a bit of land to put an end to the hunger in our homes," and, "We were able to do this because we were working together and this gave us greater strength to do very difficult things."

The Second Aspect of the Secret

And so it was that when the prime minister visited there about a year ago to inaugurate the sluiceways, he saw that the Infulene was no longer a swamp, but had again become a river. Impressed by this great undertaking, he confirmed what the voluntary builders of this hydraulic project had been promised: "Everyone will receive a plot and will have a document guaranteeing the use of this land."

The way in which these words of reassurance reverberated in the hearts of these peasants was the second aspect of the secret of the Infulene rice fields. To have a right to and guarantees on a plot of land is something many peasants regarded as the exclusive privilege of private individuals. The words of the prime minister went straight to their hearts, thus consolidating the position of the small peasants, who have been struggling for years now, hindered in particular by those people who, organized in cooperatives, felt strong enough to face up to the wave of petitioners.

The impact of these words, as happens in all popular circles, has been commemorated in the songs of labor and celebration the people sing today—"The Rice of Machungo."

[18 May 88 p 2]

[Text] In order for the rice to germinate, a third step was also necessary, in what the program technicians call the second phase. This involved marking off and distributing the plots and digging secondary and tertiary ditches.

This second phase has been under way for a year now. Thanks to the digging of approximately 20 km of ditches, it has been possible to recover 130 hectares for farm activity in the 25 June, Inhagoia and Infulene Valley sectors; 55 hectares in Bagamoyo, George Dimitrov and Zona Verde; and 50 hectares in Zimpeto. In other words, 235 hectares have been recovered. At present, work is being done on another 285 hectares in the Jardim, Luis Cabral and Acordos de Lusaka zones.

As the fields are distributed in the course of this process, the peasants are organizing to dig the secondary and tertiary ditches needed for the complete drainage of their plots, using a self-help system. The standard field measures approximately 25 by 25 meters, although there are some which are 25 by 40. To date, about 4,500 fields have been allocated.

By the end of the last farm season, the people who had received plots while the sowing season was in progress planted a total of 120 to 130 hectares with rice. According to the first estimates, productivity has averaged 2.5 tons per hectare. However, the figure is higher for the cooperative plots and those of some private individuals, thanks to the salaried labor force and the use of technical and technological facilities which the majority of the small individual producers have not yet mastered.

While examining this improvised irrigation system, we must ask ourselves how long it will be able to function. How will its maintenance be ensured? These are questions which cannot be avoided when we realize that there are tens of thousands of fields in the country where irrigation systems have functioned throughout the last decade and a half, but which in the end have been abandoned or are deteriorating. This is happening for various reasons, including operational, maintenance and management difficulties.

There are many factors of a political, social, economic or technical nature which explain the underutilization of these infrastructures. However, there are substantial indications that maintenance and operation in the Infulene Valley have been ensured.

The most important of these indications was reflected in the comment made by a woman we saw on the morning of 6 May. She was preparing to clear the ditches adjacent to her plot; she explained that if she did not do this, her plot would be of no use, because the ditches would become blocked again and her land would be flooded.

Another of the indications was the continuing cooperative work which we could see being done that same day on more sizable projects.

This is only possible when there is profound identification between the infrastructure (hydraulic project or any other investment) and the user. And this is developing and being organized, as is the case in the Infulene Valley, thanks to the involvement of the peasants in the construction.

This identification is stronger today because the recovery of this land has given rise to 20 new associations of small producers. An effort is now being made through them to make a more effective common effort to obtain and maintain joint services. One such effort will pertain precisely to the maintenance of the ditches and the irrigation system in general. And specific days have already been designated for this purpose.

These self-help systems, which are consolidating the experience acquired in recent years by the farm cooperatives there provide an important reason for optimism about the continuity of this undertaking.

Would this development have been possible if the recovery project had been the result of a carefully drafted technical and economic proposal carried out by efficient enterprises, with the land recovered only being turned over to the peasants at the end? How much would the project have cost? What would it have cost and how long would the maintenance systems have been maintained? How sensitive would the users of this project have been to the need to defend it?

Future Problems

There are still technical problems which have been raised by some experts, and they cannot be ignored. The main one has to do with the high level of salinity in these soils, which might be aggravated by poor management of the land in the future. However, the same experts who have posed these problems have already begun to work on possible solutions.

But there is another problem which the experts on soils, water and vegetable crops cannot resolve. It has to do with a social virus which has already been detected. It is in an embryonic stage, but it is already there!

This virus is called "office peasants." In fact, while the land is being cleared by this "brute force" involving thousands of volunteers standing in water up to their waists, the "intellectual force" is operating in carpeted offices on the basis of friendships and promises. On a given day, they obtain a given plot of land!

How many more peasants will be like this? Will they be able to see this land as the source of survival for their families, and therefore agree to participate in the maintenance work? If they undertake this obligation as private individuals committed to ensuring the productivity of the land they occupy, they will contribute to resolving the basic food shortage problem. But if they do not, what purpose will this land serve? How will they link the use of this right to the land with their not infrequently influential positions in the offices?

These questions lead to others. There is an infinite number of possible answers to each of them. We do not have the time or space here for much speculation on this viral affliction which is more of a threat than the salinity of the soil. We can only quote what we heard an old peasant woman in a cooperative say. She lost her family

plot in the Infulene Valley 4 years ago, but has now recovered it.

"I am going to continue to work in my cooperative, Zedequias Manganhela, because there I have the strength of the other cooperative members. But I also

want to have this plot of mine to produce the 'rice of Machungo.' Now no one can take this land of mine away from me, because now we have machetes."

5157

Participation in Private Sector Encouraged

34190121 Libreville L'UNION in French 10 May 88 p 7

[Text] Observers in Niamey affirmed that the Nigerien Government is currently encouraging certain categories of officials to leave public service and to invest in the private sector using retirement compensation.

More than 100 officials have already responded to the invitation and have applied to take advantage of the provisions of the support program for private initiatives and the creation of new jobs (PAICP). PAICP was recently created by the government to assure the promotion of a new generation of Nigerien business men.

The terms for this program concern established officials who are 4 years or more or at least 1 year [as published]

from retirement. An appropriation of 3 billion CFA francs has been set aside to encourage them to "take the step" toward the private sector.

The minister of planning emphasized that the first 91 officials leaving, "all voluntarily" have collected a total of 370 million CFA francs. Individually they have collected from 3.5 to 6.6 million CFA francs depending on the rank and length of service. The volunteers likewise find themselves reimbursed for their contribution to the national retirement fund.

In addition those officials who have come up with a viable economic plan can benefit from a repayable loan of 600,000 CFA francs from the Studies Aid Fund and also from another repayable loan of 3 million CFA francs.

Babangida's Leadership Shortcomings Detailed

34000647a Lagos THE AFRICAN GUARDIAN in English 9 May 88 pp 16-21

[Article by Godwin Agbroko with reports from Humphrey Bekren, Ekpein Appah, Dill Ojukwu, Josephine Akarue, Chima Eweama, Debo Adesina, Chinedu Soronadil Offoaro, Wale Akin Aina and Ody Chukwube]

[Text]

IBB Faces Fire From Many Fronts

Early in the life of his administration, President Ibrahim Babangida in an exclusive interview with THE GUARDIAN, identified his military heroes as Chaka the Zulu and Hannibal of Carthage. How did he come about these models?, he was asked by THE GUARDIAN panel of interviewers. "When I was a cadet in the military academy," the President explained, "instructors used to teach us...to visualise a military hero. So we tried to see if we could fit into these qualities that are synonymous with that particular leader, so one studies them and tries to see if one could emulate some of them. I just happen to be one of those military officers who had these heroes."

When the President made this disclosure in January 1986, few Nigerians, if any, apparently appreciated the symbolic import. Perhaps, this was so because of Babangida's own admission when he was asked whether he would apply some of the ideas of these heroes. Said he: "No.... The environment is different.... The change of the situation within the environment requires us to blend somewhat."

True, Babangida could be anything but ruthless as Chaka was; nor could he be the war-monger as history showed Hannibal to be. Still, those close to the President would easily testify that he shares deeply, certain personal attributes of his military models; a rare courage and a tenacity of purpose.

This was the symbolism that was apparently lost on Nigerians when barely five months into his administration, he revealed his heroes, and by implication, the kind of personal attributes that could characterize his governance.

As a commander, Babangida's civil war record between 1967 and 1970, is a testimony to his courage; so also was his confrontation with, and the disarming of, Bukar Dimka during the aborted military coup against General Murtala Muhammed on February 13, 1976. However, unlike Hannibal and Chaka, Babangida is not fighting real military battles today. But since he assumed power in August 27, 1986, President Babangida has taken his administration's efforts to revamp Nigeria's heavily indebted economy and install a Third Republic come 1992 as the moral equivalent of war, which he must prosecute with the single-mindedness of a Hannibal and

the raw courage and adroitness of a Chaka. But as in all wars, there are bound to be casualties, who if given the opportunity, would react with the verocity [as published] expected of war victims.

Nonetheless, when the nation went up in fitful demonstrations and wild-cat strikes following 'minor' hikes, April 10, in the price of petroleum products, the administration was aghast at what numerous officials characterised as the handiwork of a few detractors. What seemed to have alarmed the administration most and informed its thinking that "enemies" were at work were the spontaneity and massive spread of the riots and strikes. Barely a day after the hikes, the University of Jos triggered off the riots, April 11. And a week later, more than 31 institutions of higher learning had been shut either for rioting or for the fear of impending demonstrations. With each passing day, the strikes spread further afield, engulfing more states and various categories of workers and professionals.

The April hikes themselves looked minimal, especially in comparison with previous ones, thus making the intensity of public reaction and the spread of the strikes seemingly irrational. As Information Minister, Prince Tony Momoh told THE AFRICAN GUARDIAN last week, "the reaction to the increase in oil prices is political and not economic because there is no economic consideration at all for the opposition." Augustus Aikhomu, the Chief of General Staff and a vice-admiral buttressed this thinking when he said that "the beneficiaries of bad government policies in the past are those who have now gathered and have decided to come and fight the government."

The issues go beyond the handiwork of detractors alone. Even those who agree with aspects of the economic programmes of the administration, have reservations. The editor of the PUNCH, Najeem Jimoh, says that "some are grievously angry with the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) because the privileges they were used to having are no more." Such people, he reasons, could qualify as "enemies of the government because they benefitted from import licences; derived their wealth from spurious weaknesses of the economy and so could feel unduly bitter that the government has stepped on their toes because they have been left high and dry."

But even so, he could not see such persons constituting a problem to anyone since they are in the minority. "Government," he says, "should know that when there is an increase in the price of commodities, it should expect reaction and prepare for it, especially in these hard times," instead of seeing "external hands in the unfavourable reactions."

Others easily accept that the Babangida regime inherited gargantuan problems requiring painful remedies. Dr Walter Ofonagoro, former director-general of the Nigerian Television Authority, puts the situation graphically: "Our problem is that we have moved from a crisis of

affluence to a crisis of poverty." He explains the present crisis simply on the basis that "any government that finds itself in power in a situation where people have moved from an economy of plenty to an economy of scarcity must have a backlash of intense hostility." Tracing the roots of the present problems, Dr Ofonagoro said Nigeria misplaced its priorities when "we didn't deploy to the productive sector, the huge capital inflow into the country in the past."

What we ought to have done at the time, he reasons, was to have built a strong industrial base instead of numerous "airports, seaports and roads that have no industrial activities to utilize them." He puts the situation in graphic perspective. "As at 1980," he observed, "Nigeria had approximately 80 million people and we made about \$76 million per day from oil revenue.... By Buhari's time, we made just \$9 million per day as against the \$76 million. Yet our population had moved from 80 million to about a 100 million." To illustrate the predicament further, he observed that, "before the crunch, 93 per cent of the national revenue was from oil, yet only just about 23,000 Nigerians work in the oil industry." He asked rhetorically: "If so, how much are the rest of us producing."

Even as much as Ofonagoro emphasizes with the Babangida's administration, he is unable to accept certain aspects of its economic policies. One of them is devaluation which he says "is not in our best interest because we are negative exporters." The International Monetary Fund (IMF), he says "wanted only 60 per cent devaluation but we have gone beyond that by more than 400 per cent which nobody demanded of us." According to him, "so long as our earnings are tied to oil, and as long as oil prices fall, so long devaluation continues." His conclusion: What we have is "money illusion."

A critical part of the present problem would appear to be a fundamental difference between critics and the government of what was implied by the rejection of a loan from the International Monetary Fund in late 1985. To the Babangida administration, the majority opinion that the loan be jettisoned was a blanket acceptance of whatever other economic package the government would introduce to revamp the economy even with the attendant hardships that might follow. As Dr Nlogha Okeke, the National President of the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA) observed last week, "SAP was introduced after we rejected the IMF loan and the government made it clear there would be harsh economic measures". To him, "SAP is the only means of our economic recovery."

Some critics would not see it that way, even among those who agree with the general spirit of a structural adjustment of the economy. The quarrel, therefore, is essentially on the content, the modalities and the implementation of the adjustment.

Others would not see the issues even in that light. To them, the on-going strikes that have engulfed the nation are a natural reaction of a people who had been pushed to the tether's end because of unbearable economic hardships. Says His Pre-Eminence, Mbang, Patriarch of the Methodist Church of Nigeria: "It is badly formulated and implemented policies that are their (the government's) undoing. I am in a position to know that the people suffer because they come to me for supplication."

Dr Edwin Madunagu, a former member of the Political Bureau, "shares the dominant feeling of the people that the government is insensitive to their suffering. Rather than look for a solution to the problems, they (the government) are looking for scapegoats as if hungry people need any incitement to show they are hungry."

Wittingly or unwittingly, certain pronouncements and postures of the present regime seem to have been responsible for what has now largely turned out to be unattainable expectations, at least in the short run. The seeds of such expectations of better things to come sooner than later were sown in the President's coup day "manifesto" to the nation. Said he of his predecessor's regime: "The last 20 months have not witnessed any significant changes in the national economy. Contrary to expectations, we have so far been subjected to a steady deterioration in the general conditions of living, and intolerable suffering by the ordinary Nigerians has reached unprecedented heights. Prices of goods and equipment have risen higher; scarcity of commodities has increased; hospitals still remain mere consulting clinics; while educational institutions are still on the brink of total decay. Unemployment has stretched to critical conditions."

No manifesto could have sounded sweeter to the ears of a populace already bloodied from the pangs of hardships imposed by the economic measures of the Buhari-Idiagbon regime. As an added sop, the newly emergent regime of Babangida adopted a human rights posture that had all but disappeared from the administration of the perpetually frowning duo of Muhammadu Buhari and Tunde Idiagbon.

Soon afterwards, however, the new administration started having headaches. Barely a month after assuming office, the President in his October 1, 1985, independence broadcast announced a 15-month national economic emergency to "visibly turn around the economy" by December 1986. But the really significant economic step started June 27, 1986, when President Babangida in a state-of-the-nation address confirmed that the Second-tier Foreign Exchange Market (SFEM) was to become an integral part of SAP. When the first bidding started, September 26, the worth of the naira and hence the real income of Nigerians had nose-dived. Along with SFEM came the impoverishment of those whose livelihood had depended on import licenses.

Even so, that was not the beginning of "enemies" for the government. Long before then, Nigeria had made what many observers believed was a surreptitious entry into the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) sometime in January, 1986. The resultant religious cacophony that emanated from christians and moslems, not to talk of atheists and pagans, was deafening. In fact, that was the beginning of the problems of the administration. Still, despite the ire of christians, the President stood his grounds, reminding the nation that Nigeria would not shy away from flying its flag at all international fora that would be beneficial. By February 13, the babel of voices on Nigeria's membership had assumed such a threatening proportion that the President had to set up the Shagaya Committee to review Nigeria's membership of the OIC.

The problem was to fester, later instigating religious riots in Kwara, the University of Ibadan and other parts of the country. Some of the religious leaders themselves resorted to less than temperate language, threatening brimstone and hell fire. Not even the Advisory Council for Religious Affairs appeared capable of resolving the issues. Since its inauguration, it has had an epileptic existence.

Apart from sectarian violence which have manifested openly, the Babangida administration has had skirmishes with varied interest groups. In May 1986, for example, students in higher institutions of learning went on violent demonstrations which started from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, on account of an order banning male students from entering female hostels. By the time the demonstrations subsided, the police had killed several students and many institutions were closed. When the Abisoye panel set up to investigate the crisis submitted its report, President Ibrahim Babangida banned the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) in all higher institutions; an organisation he had unbanned a short while before the inauguration of the Political Bureau.

The problem did not end there. When leaders of the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) decided to stage demonstrations in sympathy with the students, security officers sealed off the premises of the Congress and carted off some of the leaders into detention. That was the beginning of a cat and mouse game between labour and government. The game was heightened in the controversial war on the removal of oil subsidy which was played out during most of December last year. During the subsidy war, those in the echelon of labour throughout the country were detained. Yusuf Mammam, Press Secretary to the CGS described the situation thus: "When a mad man comes running towards you, you have one of two options: you either run away or you stay to ward off the attack. We chose the latter."

Even before the confrontation with labour, the government had given serious knocks on erstwhile politicians. On September 23, 1987 Babangida banned a host of

former politicians and office holders from partisan politics. According to the President, the decision to ban the former politicians was to facilitate "the emergence of a new political leadership which Nigeria desperately needs."

Closely following on the heels of this ban was government's acceptance of the Political Bureau Report that traditional rulers should not be assigned constitutional roles, despite the massive lobbying they orchestrated to be recognised. Even so, they were restricted to their local government areas. When the CGS announced at Abuja, March 8, that traditional rulers should seek the approval of Chairmen of their Councils before travelling out of their domain, the uproar from them was expected. The CGS had to make further clarifications, denying strongly that the administration had any intention of subordinating the rulers to the powers of council chairmen.

Critics of the Babangida administration accept even readily that the government had stepped on many toes, including previously high and influential ones. What is in dispute is whether the ongoing national strikes are a natural reaction to economic hardships or the handiwork of detractors. To G. O. Ogunremi, a professor of history at the Lagos State University, (LASU) the main problem in the present situation is that not "enough explanations are given to government policies." "Government," he said, "cannot be run in secrecy," noting that students and other bodies rioted over the fuel price increase because there was not enough explanations." Odia Ofeimun, a member of the editorial board of THE GUARDIAN sees the issue in an entirely different light. To him, "in an emergency or war situation such as we are already in, you do not sit down and allow market forces to determine the economy," adding "what we have done by giving our will to market forces is simply to allow foreigners to run our lives."

Somewhere between these two extreme charges of lack of proper education of the people and lack of political will to carry through the economic policies, many Nigerians may find a meeting point. To get that mix will be the major headache of the Babangida administration in the days ahead.

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Nwachukwu Clarifies Babangida's Motives for Visit to Libya

34000653a Lagos DAILY TIMES in English
3 Jun 88 p 12

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida's recent visit to Libya was aimed at strengthening the relationship which existed between Nigeria and Libya since the Trans Saharan trade, External Affairs Minister Maj.-Gen. Ike Nwachukwu, said on Wednesday.

Answering questions from newsmen, Gen. Nwachukwu said: "It is the right step for the president to come to Libya at this point in time." Nigeria, the minister remarked, had a big role to play in Africa's quest for peace and security, adding that these were vital areas which President Babangida's visit would enable him to discuss with the Libyan leader, Col. Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi.

According to him, African leaders do not want a repeat of the Berlin Conference of 1884 during which Africa was partitioned, adding that the best measure to check such a repeat was for African leaders to work together by exchanging ideas.

The minister also said the Federal Government acknowledged that Libya had a vital role to play in the achievement of peace in Chad, which he described as a close neighbour of Nigeria.

In addition to the benefits Nigeria would derive from a peaceful Chad, Maj.-Gen. Nwachukwu said, it was imperative for Nigeria and Libya to discuss the issue because of Nigeria's membership of the OAU ad hoc committee on the Chad/Libya issue.

The minister added that now that the Libyan leader had formally recognised Habre's government in Chad, the Nigerian government would assist in welding the various factions in Chad to achieve a lasting peace.

"Nigeria is a force to reckon with in Africa. We cannot just sit back and watch," he said.

A correspondent of the NAN quoted the minister as saying that a programme of action is being worked out for the implementation of a Nigerian and Libyan agreement which will cover the economy, culture, sports and information.

Maj.-Gen. Nwachukwu also said that modalities were being worked out for the establishment of a joint bank between Nigeria and Libya.

08309

European Companies Show Interest in Buying Nation's LNG

34000654b *Lagos DAILY TIMES in English*
3 Jun 88 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ndu Ughamadu]

[Text] Five international natural gas companies based in Europe have shown interest in buying the country's Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) head of press relations, Mr. Dumo Oruobu, yesterday in Lagos, identified the companies as Ruhrgas, BEB and Thyssengas all from Western Germany, Enagas of Spain and Snam Gas Company of Italy.

Mr. Oruobu said that a few days ago, the companies accepted to go into immediate negotiations on the terms for supplying LNG to their respective countries.

This was sequel to a meeting the companies had with Petroleum Resources Minister, Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman, at Leeds Castle, Kent in Britain.

The government of Portugal, British Gas Company, Distrigas of Belgium, Gas de France also at Leeds Castle showed interest in the country's LNG project.

The target date "for the start of operations of the LNG plant is January 1995."

Alhaji Rilwanu had in an interview in Lagos said that the government was determined to export LNG to some European buyers in 1995.

One of the NNPC subsidiaries, the LNG Company, which will take off next year would handle the marketing of the country's liquefied gas to overseas buyers.

The joint venture partners of the company are, NNPC, Shell, Elf and Agip.

A two-train LNG plant which could produce a maximum of 4.5 million tonnes a year was being proposed.

An industry source in Lagos yesterday said that although there existed other LNG supply sources to Europe like, Algeria, Norway and USSR, Nigeria could still obtain a fair share of the market.

This is because the country is well located compared with other potential suppliers "and does not have to surmount any major natural obstacles like canal passages, ice breaking and off-shore production."

08309

Specter of Famine Seen as Food Prices Zoom

34000649b *Ikeja AFRICAN CONCORD in English*
24 May 88 pp 22-25, 28-30

[Article by Okechukwu Ifionu with additional reports by Demola Abimboye, Victor Omuabor and Ademola Oguntayo]

[Text] Iddo Market in Lagos is a food terminal of repute. It is the clearing house of food-stuffs. Traders from the hinterland troop in with lorry loads of rice, beans, maize, yam, flour and onions. Prices are expected to be lower at Iddo than at most markets in Lagos because it is the middlemen's market.

But recent market surveys show that the price of almost every foodstuff has jumped up by at least 70 per cent, often by as much as 150 per cent or more at the Iddo Market in the last six months. The same is true of other markets in Nigeria.

A 100-kilogramme bag of garri that sold for N120 six months ago at Iddo now costs N240. Rafiu Abiodun, a garri trader at Iddo Market, said the rise in the price of garri is seasonal. It is much more difficult to harvest cassava during the dry season. When the rain returns, he hopes, the price will change for the better. Only a hope!

A 50-kilogramme bag of imported rice which sold for less than N150 last November now sells for N190. Beans is the king of grains, with a 100-kilogramme costing between N360 and N400. It sold for about N280 before last Christmas. Mr Okechukwu Ezeugo, a dealer in rice and beans at Iddo Market said beans is costly even in the North from where traders buy in large quantities. To him the high price of the product largely derives from the increased cost of transporting a bag (about N30) down South. That is just part of the reasons.

Locally grown rice which sold for less than N100 prior to Christmas now sells for N130. This, Ezeugo claimed, is perhaps the cheapest foodstuff now.

Yam, another Nigerian staple food, has also recorded steep price increases. An average-sized yam tuber now sells for between N3.50 and N6 as opposed to N3 some four months ago. More and more people have made yam their favourite as a result of the prohibitive price of bread.

The cost of beef and fish is even more distressing. Most housewives say the two items are now almost impossible to buy. Even small families have since discovered that N40 cannot make a standard pot of soup. In fact, the food bills of most families have escalated so much in the last few months that many have had to remove certain food items from their menu.

Bread, for instance, has virtually disappeared from many breakfast tables. Its price has jumped so frequently within the past five years.

Two weeks ago the newly formed Consumer Protection Society of Nigeria (CPSN) urged the Federal Government to protect consumers from the exploitative tendencies of "shylock food vendors".

The CPSN, echoing most senior officials of the government, believes middlemen are mainly to blame for the rising food prices. In another statement last week, the society asked the various state governments to ban all the food sellers cartels. Two days later the Bendel State Government outlawed all such cartels in the state. The

belief is that the cartels which embrace the middlemen in the food distribution process increase prices arbitrarily even when they have bought them at reasonable prices from the farmers.

Market watchers and agricultural experts however, do not agree with this diagnosis. Danladi Hauwa, a housewife and former official of one of the river basin development authorities, writing in the *NEW NIGERIAN*, called the food crisis a "most frightening epidemic in the country today." She said that food shortages are a reality in both the rural and urban areas.

But this situation, she insisted, went beyond the antics of the food cartels. "It is unrealistic," she pointed out, "to pretend that enough food is being produced by the country. The truth is that much is wrong with our agriculture and hence our inability to produce enough at easily affordable prices.

Mrs Danladi listed a number of problems militating against food production: inadequate supply of improved seedlings, poor irrigation facilities, lack of good storage, absence of modern farming practices, etc. Unless greater attention is paid to these problems, warned Danladi, the food shortages may yet become persistent or lead to what agricultural experts have called the "food time bomb."

"What is now experienced as food shortages," said Sampson Oduma, a graduate farmer at Adani in Anambra State "should be regarded as the nation's penalty for neglecting the farmers."

Oduma who cultivated 50 hectares of rice last year said he was convinced that given the necessary incentives the Nigerian farmers could supply the nation's food needs.

In Abakaliki, for instance, although the land is rich, rice and yam production has not been optimised because of what the Chairman of the Abakaliki Local Government, Chief F. O. U. Mbam, described as the peasant methods of the farmers. If agriculture is mechanised and high yielding seeds are provided to the farmers, said Mbam, a former director of the World Rice Project at Adani, Abakaliki can produce more than half the rice needed by the country.

But lack of irrigation facilities, weedcides, combines and even fertilizer and other support services has hindered the growth of agriculture in most parts of the country. Said Eboyem Emeke an Agbor-based farmer: "Fertilizer is rather costly at N15 for a 50 kilogram bag given the quantity needed for say, a 20-hectare farmland. Not many farmers can afford that." Even though the official price of fertilizer is N10 most farmers buy it at N15, thanks to middle men.

Said Professor Kolade Adeyoju, Dean of Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Ibadan: "There is a limit to human labour. With new machinery the farmers might be able to do 20 times what he could do manually."

Output of most root crops especially cassava and yam was particularly affected by the semi-drought situation of last year. The decline was substantial in many parts of the country. Oduma said his cassava farm was, in addition, afflicted with a certain disease which he could not identify. The disease made the cassava plants wither barely after sprouting. "I realised less than 10 tonnes of Cassava tubers from my 25-hectare cassava from last year," disclosed Oduma. In normal times, the harvest would have double the quantity, he said.

In most parts of Sokoto State, the drought proved most disastrous. In places like Gusau, Kaura Namoda, Talata Mafara and Anka local government areas which recorded less than 15 rains during the year, food and cash crops were desiccated, resulting in discouraging outputs during the harvest.

In Kano, Borno and Katsina states the drought was equally severe and losses enormous. Kano is said to have lost N48,782,000 worth of crops to drought and pests. More than 137,992 tonnes of assorted grains and 334,072 hectares of land were affected.

Problems of drought had led to the establishment of the river basin development authorities (RBDAs) by the Obasanjo administration in 1977. At present, there are 13 of them with the mandate to provide the farmers with support services especially irrigation facilities.

However, in spite of the RBDAs, water problems have remained an acute pain the neck of the farmers. Boreholes provided by the RBDAs are often dry. Even where water is available at all, the farmers hardly have enough to drink talkless of irrigation. Critics say construction of more boreholes may offer no solution to the water problem. Said Adeyoju: "Instead of the new institutions of agriculture, money should be diverted to developing the pools and streams and damming them to channels for irrigation during the dry season." This is already in practice in some parts of the North.

Experts also blame certain government's actions and policies for the nation's gloomy agricultural performance. Take the supply of fertilizer for instance. The need for the input arises mainly because of frequent use of the same piece of land. But experts say in importing the fertilizer, the variation in Nigeria's soil is hardly taken into consideration.

"Ninety nine per cent of the fertilizers being used in this country," said Adeyoju "are the wrong ones. Government goes to import more or less two types as if all the

soils are homogenous." The type of fertilizer needed by an Abeokuta farmer, for example, may not be suitable for the Abakaliki soil. Even if it is, the quantity needed by each soil may vary.

Adeyoju said the proper thing to do is to first determine what a particular soil lacks in terms of minerals before deciding on the type of fertilizer needed on it. Government's plan to divide the country into agricultural zones may be a response to this.

Certain government policies have also tended to exacerbate food shortages. Fishery and poultry, for example. Fish farmers complain that government is yet to stop illegal fish harvesting in Nigeria's continental shelf by foreign trawlers. Nigerian fishers are not expected to hire trawlers beyond 75 cubic feet. This limitation, said most fish farmers, makes it impossible for Nigerian trawlers to compete effectively with foreign ones.

Moreover, Federal Government's new policy on fish importation has further escalated fish prices. The policy grants duty-free concession to farmers bringing in fish in their own vessels whereas fish brought in foreign ship attract a 30 per cent import duty. But the trouble is that not many Nigerian fish farmers own trawlers. This had led to increases in the price of fresh fish.

Two other problems affecting fish farming are the Kainji Dam and the seasonal water hyacinth. The construction of the dam is said to have reduced the level of water available for on-shore fish farming. This low water level has hampered the growth of fish.

Water hyacinth in turn has made fishing impossible in many places. Fish farmers who have the means are, however, developing their own fish ponds where fingerlings are husbanded into big fishes.

Poultry farming on its part is threatened by two major problems—inadequate supply of day-old chicks and the high cost of feeds.

The lot of root crops and cereal farmers is more complicated. Lack of scientific information on the weather, unmechanised farming methods, absence or inadequate supply of improved seedlings and other inputs, and poor storage and preservation methods are only part of the problem. Pests have become an additional setback.

Most farmers say expansion through mechanisation is ruled out as loans and credit facilities are virtually impossible to obtain. "You can only mechanise if you have the capital to purchase the heavy machinery that go with it," said Oduma.

Said Mr C. E. Olumese, General Manager of the Benin-Owena River Basin Authority: "The only way to turn the small farmer into a big farmer is through the provisions of support services. This will enable him [to] increase his productivity and in turn expand."

Olumese said there was no alternative to the small farmer. "We can only help him become a medium and then big farmer." Support, he said, should come not only through the provision of subsidized inputs such as fertilizers, enhanced seedlings, pesticides, water and tractor services, but also through the provision of small scale industries and other amenities.

This, Olumese will "reduce the number of people engaged in disguised farming as many of them would pick up jobs in industry and allow others to acquire their farms. By this guided evolutionary process the small farmer develops into a big one. It is this big farmer, Olumese concluded, who will put an end to the food crisis that has plagued the country for so long.

But that will require shifting from the present farming methods to scientific agriculture where research on seedlings and their easy multiplication are so vital. At present most Nigerian farmers are unaware of some of the agricultural research institutes in Nigeria that have recorded break-throughs on how to enhance the genetic quality and yielding capacities of certain grains and seedlings but only few farmers are planting the new species.

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), in Ibadan and the National Root Crop Research Institute at Umudike have, for example, been able, through hybridisation, to develop high yielding maize, rice and cassava seedlings but save one or two big farmers, these developments have yet to be exploited by the farmers.

Agbor-based farmers, Edward Ekome said although he is aware of the existence of the improved cassava seedlings, it has been difficult for him to acquire it.

High cost of labour is another common problem. Sampson Okoro, reputedly one of the leading yam and cassava farmers in Agbor, expressed his frustration thus: "I am tired of this farming business because I have lost all my money in it. The cost of labour is too high and produce prices are not attractive."

Okoro owns more than 10 barns containing about 20,000 yam tubers. But this was said to be a fraction of what he had as of three years ago. Out of frustration, he plans to plant even fewer seedlings this year. "I can't be investing without recouping my expenses," he grumbled. Okoro is not alone in this regard.

On 30 January this year an Ikwo-based farmer, Mr Frederick U. Eze sent an SOS letter to the Chairman of Abakaliki Local Government. In the letter the farmer catalogued his woes during the last planting season. He said his rice and maize farms had been scorched by the excessive high temperature of the last planting season and that this had ruined his finances. Eze then pleaded for financial aid to enable them [to] remain in business.

The lot of farmers like Eze and Okoro whose interest in farming is being threatened by their distressing experience last year might not have been as bad if there had been an effective agricultural insurance scheme.

Such a scheme, according to experts, should be preceded with the setting up of efficient agricultural monitoring units. These units should ensure that farmers receive all necessary aids to cope with ecological and other natural disasters. But that's not all. It should also be the job of the units to ensure that whenever there is a major disaster arising especially from bad weather, farmers on loan should have their loans written off.

The monitoring units should further advise the farmers on the need to insure their farms against the vagaries of weather. Chief Mbam said it was necessary that government should follow up the activities of the monitoring units by agreeing to underwrite such insurances. That is one way to sustain farmers' interest.

At least two Agbo-based cassava farmers said they had to abandon their farms as a result of the extensive damage done to their cassava by the mealy bug pest between 1980 and 1982. "After the losses," said one of them, "I lost interest in cassava farming."

A similar situation obtained in the North following the rinderpest livestock disease and the frequent quelea bird and locust attack in the area a couple of years ago. Malam Tudun Zungur of Kano State said after the frequent battle which maize and millet farmers waged against quelea and locusts, and the inevitable losses to their crops, many farmers abandoned maize and millet farming for other businesses. And according to experts, this deserting of agriculture predictably results in lower harvests than could have been possible.

One way to avoid or reduce the phenomenon is by getting the farmers to insure their farms. Any agricultural reform in Nigeria, insisted Chief Mbam, must recognise the need to minimise the misfortunes of the farmers. Agricultural experts said another effective means of achieving this goal is through co-operative farming.

Co-operative farming enables a group of farmers to pool their resources together, thereby reducing the impact of any disaster on individual members. It also enables farmers to exchange ideas on how to improve their lot. In particular, it enables them to begin to demand favourable government policies and fundamental agricultural reforms which may include softer terms for bank loans and other credit facilities. These are still largely non-existent in Nigeria.

Nwandugo Nwovu and Aluma Uze of Ndiakparata near Abakaliki have given up their individual efforts to obtain a bank loan with which to expand their farms even though both farmers have more than 20,000 yam tubers each. Said Nwovu: "I would have liked to cultivate more

land if I had the money to buy both the yam seedlings and labour." Even then Nwovu's greatest concern now is that even on the few occasions he had the money to hire a tractor, it could not make it to his farms because of lack of access road.

"The roads are so bad that no tractor operator wants to risk it," Nwovu noted. Routes to the farms are mostly pathways. During planting as well as harvesting seasons, the farmers have to do a long trek to their farms and back. In a particular instance, a farmer said it takes him at least two hours to get to his farm everyday. To avoid having to do the long trek daily, he has built a small house near the farm.

Most farmers said the absence of access roads has made their trade very cumbersome. During harvesting for instance, a lot of money is spent on labourers hired to convey harvest to the house or market. Because of the long distances involved breakdown is frequent and in some instances, the nearest medical facilities are 80 to 100 kilometres away. This curtails a farmer's productive capacity.

The Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure, (DFRRI), is supposed to tackle these problems. But its impact in some places is still a far cry from what the farmers need. Said Nwovu: "We expect the government to give us good roads and other social amenities so that farming could become a lot easier; and so that our children could be attracted to farming after we have become too old to continue."

Hardly any of the yam-producing areas of Benue State including Chito, Ugba Afia, Kado Diom and Gbeji are accessible. "It is like hell freighting the yams from villages to Zaki-Biam where they are sold," said one farmer. Mr Andrew Asema, secretary-general of Yam Shed Owners Association in Zaki-Biam, agrees. Said he: "Neither DFRRI nor the Benue River Basin Development Authority has been of much help."

As in other places the farmers, complaints range from inadequate irrigation facilities, soil erosion, high cost of fertilizer and tractor hire to lack of social amenities like potable water and health care delivery. Said Joseph Abege, a farmer in Zaki-Biam: "it costs N75 to harrow a hectare of farmland with a tractor. And for those who have several hectares to harrow, the cost can be quite discouraging."

Explaining why food prices have been on the increase for some time now, Abege said most farmers have had to jack up prices to recoup their expenses. This trend also applies to livestock farmers. In most northern states cattle farmers suffered tremendous losses as a result of the drought. To graze their cattle most farmers had to come down to as far as Ilorin and parts of Bendel State

where the pasture is greener. During this southward movement, several heads of cattle were said to have died. To make up for the losses, the cattle farmers have had to hike prices.

Again, although officials of the veterinary departments of the various ministries of agriculture say rinderpest has been eradicated, serious livestock pests still strike occasionally thereby worsening meat shortages. Not even the regular importation of cattle from Niger Republic has been able to off-set the short supply. And the solution according to agricultural experts lies in the establishment of more ranches in the country. Governments, they advise, should also step up assistance to the cattle farmers and researchers to enable them [to] discover how to improve the fertility rate of the cattle.

Chairman of the Katsina State Drought Emergency Relief Agency (KADERA), Alhaji Othman Ladan Baki, said the state would spend N700,000 on animal feeds this year while N1.5 million has been budgeted for the purchase of water tankers and rehabilitation of existing boreholes.

The shortages in cereals and fruits generally result from poor storage and preservation and of course what one observer described as "wrong-headed government policies."

Alhaji Mohammed Arzika, Publicity Secretary of Sokoto State Branch of Farmers Council of Nigeria and also Chairman of Sokoto State Chamber of Commerce, said there was a bumper harvest of maize in 1985 and 1986. "We ended up not having markets for grains," he added.

In 1986 the government did not buy grains. The commodity boards did not buy and there was a surplus that nobody wanted to buy. Later the same year, the commodity boards were dismantled, government subsidy to the farmers withdrawn and banks increased interest rates on borrowing. Many farmers then switched from food crops to cash crops. The emphasis was on cotton and groundnut, resulting in a bumper harvest of both crops and neglect of food crops like maize, millet and rice.

Even in places where harvest of food crops was plentiful, storage still constitutes a problem. Maize is usually the worst hit among the grains while tomato is also easy victim.

Hundreds of tonnes of tomato fruits and other citrus products are lost annually as a result of poor preservation methods. According to Central Bank's annual report for 1986, several tonnes of maize were lost that year due to poor storage. Most farmers store their cereals in simple cribs which experts say are inadequate.

The waste resulting from poor storage of cereals is, however, expected to reduce when the integrated silos being constructed by the Federal Government are ready.

Federal Government's new agricultural policy is an important step towards improved agriculture but critics note that by restricting the number of hectares an individual farmer can own [up] to 2,000, the policy may not encourage large scale farming.

"The current food shortages," remarked Danladi "gives all of us—the government and the governed—a golden chance to look critically at the problems of agriculture with a view to tackling them squarely." That may just be the only way to banish the spectre of famine threatening the country.

/9274

Bauchi State Barter Cotton for Yugoslavia's Machinery

34000648b Ikeja NEWSWATCH in English
9 May 88 pp 44, 47

[Article by Soni Ehi Asuelimen]

[Text] Bauchi state government is pushing ahead vigorously, despite criticisms and obvious odds, its N200 million barter agreement signed November 1986, to supply Yugoslavia with cotton in exchange for machinery for two industries. Machinery to be supplied by the Yugoslav government—the technical partner—is for the mango and tomato processing industry to be sited at Kumo and the egg and milk powder industry of Azare.

The two projects are estimated to cost 8.4 million US dollars (N17.64 million) and 34.9 million dollars (N149.72 million) respectively. In addition, the egg and milk powder project will cost another N29 million for building and civil engineering works. Bauchi State is to provide N32.64 million in local currency while Yugoslavia gets cotton worth about N167 million over a period of five years.

Two separate feasibility studies on the projects in 1986 by the Nigerian Industrial Development Bank, NIDB, and EMOL consultants confirmed their viability. NEWSWATCH learnt that project briefs and contract agreement have been dispatched to President Ibrahim Babangida who is expected to visit Yugoslav president expected in the country. NEWSWATCH learnt that the federal government was initially hesitant in granting approval for the barter deal but later bought the state's argument that the project tallies with efforts to diversify the economy and boost exports.

Government officials say no export of cotton under the barter agreement has been made yet. But NEWSWATCH investigations on Gombe and Bauchi showed that the cotton spinning mill in Gombe has started processing and getting ready for export, the cotton bought by the state government. Bauchi state commission for commerce and industry, Sonni Saji Sule told

NEWSWATCH: "We are still in the process of working out modalities to find bankers and those to do the exporting since we, as a government, don't have the expertise."

The United Bank for Africa has signified interest. The bank is expected to work out payment modalities in naira if the state fails to meet yearly target of cotton export worth N33.47 million. This is because cotton production depends on uncontrollable natural conditions. For instance, pests and drought have, over the years, adversely affected cotton production in the country.

Last year, only 150,000 of the expected 300,000 tonnes of cotton was produced nationwide. According to Walid Jibrin, chairman textile employers association, only 20 percent of the cotton requirement of the 163 industries using cotton as raw materials can be supplied locally. He told NEWSWATCH in Kaduna that 621,000 bales of cotton are required to feed the industries every year. Only about 100,000 bales, he said, would be got this year. In 1985 only 53,000 bales were produced throughout the country; 146,000 in 1986 and 150,000 last year.

Because of the shortfall the textile employers association has not only asked the federal government to ban the export of cotton until there is a surplus but to also reduce the 60 percent tariff on imported cotton. Severe cotton shortage, Jibrin said, could force textile mills to close down and send home 250,000 workers. Already, the price of cotton has jumped from N1,300 in October last year to N2,000 per tonne. Textile millers now engage in cut-throat competition with cotton marketers with each accusing the other of causing the rise in cotton price.

Even in Bauchi, Nigeria's leading cotton producing state producing 40 percent of national output, cotton production has been declining. Statistics from the state ministry of agriculture show that cotton production reached 15,638 in 1981; dropped to 15,218 in 1982; 13,536 in 1983; 9,409 in 1984; 13,206 in 1985; 10,670 in 1986 and 15,752 last year. The state expects to produce 14,000 tonnes this year.

Under the barter agreement with Yugoslavia, Bauchi will in a year supply 16,750 tonnes of cotton at the prevailing price of N2,000 a tonne, far more than its expected production.

Already the Gombe oil seed processors and ginnery, the biggest in the country is underused because of cotton shortage. Its administrative manager, Braimoh Mohammed, told NEWSWATCH only 14,000 tonnes of cotton seeds and 18,000 bales of cotton lint were processed last year. The plant has capacity to process 60,000 tonnes of cotton seeds and 90,000 bales of cotton lint. The plant was, therefore, underutilised for between 77 percent and 200 percent for cotton seed and lint last year respectively.

Despite the cotton shortage, Bauchi state government last February in Gombe laid the foundation stone of a N23 million spinning mill with initial capacity to produce 10,000 yarn every year, rising to 25,000 within five years of completion. The weaving section is expected to accommodate 600 looms to produce African and java print, poplin and super wax. The spinning mill is a joint project between the state and local governments, 60 percent, and Messrs Expo Limited, London and Keystone construction company, Kano, 40 percent. Payments have already been made for machinery and civil works. A 10-hectare farmland to produce cotton for the mill exclusively is to be acquired.

Yakubu Ibrahim Lame, commissioner for information, told NEWSWATCH of other plans to tackle the problem of raw materials to feed the industries. Government, he said hopes to double its cotton production to between 30,000 and 40,000 tonnes on a 500 hectares farmland using the "drip irrigation system" to facilitate all-season farming. Herbicides, machinery, seeds are subsidized while small-scale loans of between N2,000 and N3,000 are given to farmers to encourage them [to] produce more cotton. Already a N13 million contract has been awarded for the construction of silos capable of holding 16,000 tonnes of grains to support the BEMCO industry.

The Bauchi barter deal has drawn the anger of textile employers. Jibrin, their spokesman, said the exportation of cotton where local demand has not been satisfied, would cripple the cotton industry. Cotton prices, he said, would rise further and worsen the "already chaotic situation," while millers may be forced to close down. He therefore urged the federal government to stop the state government from going ahead.

Lame justified the deal. Said he: "Bauchi generates about one million naira a year. We depend on the federal government; so we decided to develop what we have to survive." Bauchi, he said is "backward industrially," adding, "we hope to finance industry."

Sule spoke in a similar vein: "We don't have oil or naira to bid for foreign exchange. But we have people and fertile land to use. We can't just sit back and moan. I look at it as a challenge because government has to grow cotton itself and entice farmers to grow cotton. If we succeed other cotton growing states will follow."

/9274

Mismanagement, Low Production, Low Morale Confound ASCO

34000653b Ikeja NEWSWATCH in English
23 May 88 pp 23-24

[Article by Kola Ilori]

[Text] When the Federal Government established the Ajaokuta Steel Company, ASCO, in September 1979, its objectives were among others to promote the transfer of

technology and create employment opportunities for Nigerians. While the attainment of the first objective is being made laborious for Nigerians by the Russian technical partners at the plant, the second, though largely successful is being tainted by the "apartheid" tendencies of Fougerolle Nigeria Limited, Dumez Nigeria Limited and Julius Berger, three multinational civil engineering contractors involved in the construction of the steel complex.

Fougerolle is constructing the raw materials preparation plant; Dumez is in charge of the auxiliary and ancillary shops while Julius Berger is handling the rolling mills and steel-making shop. Dumex and Fougerolle are French companies while Berger is German.

The management of these multinationals have set up exclusive quarters for their nationals. In 1982, Audu Ogbe, who was then minister of power and steel in the Shagari administration, was very embarrassed when during an inspection tour of the steel complex, he came across one of the camps with the inscription "African Camp." It was one of the several camps exclusively reserved for the Nigerian workers, but whose conditions were, and are still, a scandal. Ogbe frowned at it and made his displeasure known on the spot. Ogbe's disapproval apparently sank in and the inscription was changed to "life camp." And that was the only thing that changed about the camp.

The living conditions of Nigerians working with the three multinationals are almost sub-human in relative terms. While the French working with Fougerolle and Dumez and the Germans in Julius Berger live in posh quarters, their Nigerian employees live in shanties. Very many of them, including the married ones, live in one-room apartments in the slum areas of Ajaokuta. None of the employees of these companies would talk to NEWSWATCH for fear of losing their jobs.

The French and German quarters have many recreational facilities that are not open to their Nigerian employees. Fougerolle, Julius Berger and Dumez, operate special ultra-modern clinics with white personnel manning them exclusively for whites. Under no circumstance or condition would blacks be treated there for any ailment. A few months ago, a white doctor was queried verbally at the Dumez clinic for treating blacks at the construction site—an act which Dumez finds indecorous for its white doctors.

At the same Dumez clinic, doctors were often asked to reduce the amount of drugs they prescribed for ailing Nigerian workers with a view to reducing expenditure on drugs. This invariably reduced the efficacy of such prescribed drugs for the sick. A Nigerian doctor put a stop to the practice when he threatened to report such an unethical and unwholesome practice to the Nigerian medical council.

Apart from the inferior medical treatment they receive, Nigerian workers suffer untold hardship in the hands of the multinationals whenever they are involved in accidents and they dare to ask for compensation. For instance, 31-year-old Anthony Obuseh, a trailer driver with Dumez, was involved in an accident while on duty July 19, 1986. Before then, he had a seven-year accident-free period to his credit. He lost a leg in the accident and Dumez was quick to strike off his name from the staff list with no compensation paid. Security men were ordered to bundle Obuseh out of the Dumez site in January when he went there to inquire about his compensation from the management. According to him, he was seriously warned not to come near the site again.

Magaji Muhammad Inuwa, 45, the general manager of Ajaokuta Steel Company, appears powerless in view of the relationship that exists between ASCO and the civil contractors. "Our relationship is just one of contractor and a client," said Magaji. He told NEWSWATCH that workers in the three companies should have a union capable of safeguarding their interests. Inuwa's reasoning appears logical but the multinationals have, through firing workers at will, injected fear into the mind of any would-be organiser of a virile labour union. Workers who were interviewed said they have a union on paper but not in reality. "The whites sack at will and there is nothing we can do about it," they said. They have resigned themselves to fate.

Temple Benson, Julius Berger's public relations manager, said that the fact that Berger's stay in Ajaokuta is temporary, coupled with the fact that it could not build enough residential quarters there, led to the disparity in the type of accommodation provided for the whites and the blacks. He added that a different situation exists in Abuja where Berger has permanent offices. "We have enough quarters there where both the whites and the blacks live," said Benson.

According to him, Berger pays all its workers housing allowances in addition to inconvenience allowances, which they all enjoy. He said, "we don't discriminate at Berger," and pointed out that all the posh quarters and facilities being enjoyed by the Germans would invariably form part of development for Ajaokuta steel town after they might have left. Benson was emphatic that Berger would never encourage German doctors to discriminate against Nigerians that attend their clinics. "That can't happen here. Not to my knowledge," he said and cited the case of one Olaore, a married woman in the company's accounts department, whom Berger flew abroad for specialist medical attention when such a situation arose.

F. Huguenin, Fougerolle managing director, rebuffed two attempts made by NEWSWATCH, April 25 and 26, to have his comments on the situation at Ajaokuta. On both occasions he had "no time for any pressman" despite the fact that NEWSWATCH's reasons for the calls were clearly stated, type-written and passed to him.

The situation was not different at Dumez where for three days, April 25-27, its management engaged NEWSWATCH in a sort of hide-and-seek game. Finally on April 27, Dumez managing director advised his deputy to talk to NEWSWATCH. But his deputy wanted the interview to be rebooked on telephone. Several phone calls did not persuade him to talk on the issue as the usual refrain was the deputy managing director "has travelled."

If the welfare of Nigerians working with the multinational civil contractors was despicable, the apathy being displayed by the Russian technical partners towards Nigerians in the complex raises a big question on the preparedness of the former in assisting to "transfer technology" to the latter. The Russians see themselves as repository of all knowledge on steel technology. They decide selectively what to teach Nigerians and what to withhold, although Nigerians at the complex have shown and demonstrated a clear enthusiasm to learn. This situation is, however, not lost on the management of ASCO.

For instance, on May 28, 1984, barely six months before Inuwa assumed office, two Russian senior officials, attached to the rolling mills and light section mills respectively, held a meeting with the then deputy general manager (production). The meeting was held to persuade the Russians to disclose to Nigerians the functioning of a mechanism which makes rolled steel that passes through the furnace to get very cold just at the point it drops off the furnace. The Russians refused to say where the cooling system was despite the plea by ASCO officials. NEWSWATCH was informed that the Russians are under strict instructions to keep their mouths shut on all the sensitive aspects of the steel complex.

At the steel town, an informal interpersonal relationship between Nigerian workers and their Russian counterparts is discouraged by the Russian management. A deliberate policy by the Russians ensures that no Russian, except senior managers posted to Ajaokuta, stays for more than two years, before he is sent back home.

Youri A. Kamensky, counsellor for economic affairs, in the Russian embassy, Lagos told NEWSWATCH that it was "improbable" that the Russian experts would withhold any knowledge from Nigerians at the steel complex. The counsellor who has 20 years experience in steel production, attested to the capabilities of Nigerian technicians and said the Russians were proud of over 4,500 Nigerians they have trained in various areas of steel production.

On the constant transfer of Russians back home, Kamensky said out of more than 3,800 Russian experts in Ajaokuta, less than 30 percent are with their family. He attributed the situation to lack of adequate accommodation for the experts.

The conditions of Nigerian workers at Ajaokuta steel company itself would have improved considerably since its inception but for the fact that its management has not, until the arrival of Inuwa, been able to put its house in order. ASCO's first management was sacked for proven cases of corruption. Fidelis Ezemenari, ASCO's first general manager, was detained for over 18 months by the Buhari government for alleged corrupt practices. Three deputy general managers and five assistant general managers were fired along with him.

Idris Atta, an officer on salary grade level 13, was moved to level 16 and made acting general manager, January 1984. He too swam into troubled waters as his colleagues could not stand what they regarded as his autocratic tendencies. Atta resolved that his five deputies, most of them his seniors, must go. He sacked his deputies in a manner unprecedented even in the history of military purges. Atta signed their letters of retirement and these were presented to the affected officials by a combined team of soldiers, the police and security agents led by an army officer. The five deputies were led out of their offices at gunpoint and had three hours to check out of their official residences. That was not all. Curfew was immediately imposed on the steel town and sympathisers sent back from the gate.

The ministry of mines, power and steel felt indignant over Atta's action and it set up an administrative panel of inquiry to look into Atta's management. Following the acceptance of its report by the government, Atta was retired September 17, 1984, for "hurriedly and irregularly" awarding furnishing contracts amounting to N55,000. The ministry noted that Atta's appointment and accelerated promotion was "unduly externally influenced," which made him "impervious" to constructive criticism from the ministry. It said from all indications, Atta lacked "the most rudimentary attributes of purposeful leadership."

Though Unuwa assumed office October 1, 1984, he is still grappling with ASCO's problems. Fougerolle, Dumez and Julius Berger, the three multinational contractors that were expected to work in such a way to meet certain targets, are said to have slowed down work because a number of job certificates raised by them could not be paid by ASCO due to "lack of sufficient funds." Production at the plant is far below installed capacity. It now produces between 30-40,000 tonnes of steel per annum instead of 530,000 tonnes per annum.

Though the federal government says the plant will be commissioned in 1989, the Russian embassy, however, believes "no practical work has been done" to justify such hope. Kamensky told NEWSWATCH that no thorough job has been done to ensure a steady supply of iron ore and cooking coal, the two major raw materials for making steel. The mode of transportation to facilitate production, he said, is yet to be seriously tackled. Worse still, the multimillion naira metallurgical training institute, designed to be the best in Africa and completed in

1983, is yet to be commissioned because the contract cost rose to a level far higher than what was earmarked for it, hence the need for the government to approve the price escalation.

Exodus of trained staff from ASCO has constituted another headache for Inuwa. ASCO needs over 6,000 trained technical staff for the first phase of the plant and has spent about N5.2 million on training since 1981. But ASCO has lost a sizeable number of such skilled staff to other companies in the country within the last three years. The exodus is traceable to the inadequacies of medical facilities, accommodation and transportation for workers. To make matters worse, ASCO operates on the civil service remuneration structure, which has drawn flak from workers in all the steel companies in the country.

Accommodation and transportation are two areas that have caused considerable discontent among ASCO's staff. A lot of money went down the drains through mobilisation fees paid to contractors for work not done on housing projects under the Shagari administration. Only about 2,500 housing units have been completed out of the 10,000 units envisaged for the staff quarters. ASCO transports thousands of its workers in hired trailers to and from Okene, where most of them live. The hardship is not limited to adults alone as ASCO transports the children of its staff to and from schools in trailers. NEWSWATCH learnt that three school children dropped dead from the back of one of such trailers in 1984.

Inuwa is not oblivious of the hardship and the unsuitability of the mode of transportation but he wishes that he could find urgent means of generating funds to improve staff welfare which is "uppermost" in his mind.

08309

Inflated Contracts With Foreign Firms Said To Bleed Nation

34000648a Ikeja NEWSWATCH in English
9 May 88 pp 14-19

[Article by Dan Agbese with Onome Osifo-Whiskey, Kola Ilori, Wale Oladepo, John Ebri and Mercy Otu]

[Text] The rationale was sound. Every nation needs a machine tools industry. It is vital to its industrial development. In engineering parlance, machine tools are known as mother machines because they are, in the words of experts, "primary machines which help to build other machines."

That argument was sold to the Obasanjo administration late 1975. Government bought it and decided to give the nation a machine tools industry. A feasibility study funded by UNIDO, Vienna, and undertaken by Hindustani Machine Tools, HMT, India, in 1977, established the viability of the project. HMT, an Indian

government-owned company, hosted a workshop on the machine tools industry in 1975. Government decided to set up the industry in partnership with the Indian company. Experts preferred India for this project, arguing that the country, being a developing economy like Nigeria, was at a level in its machine tools industry that would make it easier for a transfer of technology. They further reasoned that it would be cheaper to choose India. Error number one.

On June 29, 1979, the irrevocable step was taken. Rowland Aderemi Adeleye, federal commissioner for industries, signed a joint venture agreement with the Indian company on behalf of the federal military government. And a new company, Nigeria Machine Tools Limited, was born. Its home—Osogbo, Oyo State.

The equity structure and share ownership of the company gives the federal government 85 percent and HMT the remaining 15 percent. HMT was to pay its equity share, according to the joint venture agreement, "in the form of the supply of plant and machinery and not in cash." Error number two. The authorised share capital was N20 million. The entire project was costed at N57.7 million.

The people of Osogbo placed a lot of store by the industry. It is the biggest industrial venture there. They looked forward eagerly to its contributions to their own socio-economic development. But somehow, work in the company did not appear to be progressing as they expected. By 1983, four years after the company took off, they began to suspect something had gone wrong with it. They decided to act.

In June 1983, a letter arrived in the office of the minister of industries at the federal secretariat, Ikoyi, Lagos. It was signed by two men, Olu Ogunrinde and Ade Farinu, chairman and secretary respectively of a "Committee for the Redemption of Nigeria Machine Tools Limited." In the letter, the committee complained of mismanagement by the Indian partners and urged the minister to "look very critically into the technical agreement for the formation of the company because a lot of the clauses we consider to be quite obnoxious require urgent review."

The committee knew what it was talking about. Augustus Adebayo, chairman of the board of the company, told NEWSWATCH: "One thing that will never cease to surprise me is how any group of Nigerians can come together and put their hands to that type of agreement which is entirely lopsided, all advantages on the side of the Indians and nothing at all for Nigerians. It beats me how any Nigerian could have signed that type of agreement."

The clues lie in a well-organised rip off of Nigeria. Nearly all the major projects in Nigeria—buildings, roads, industries—produce evidence of this. Almost all the agreements are in favour of the contractors and foreign partners. And in almost all cases, federal and state

governments spend a lot more money than what was estimated to be the project cost. A greater part of the excess payment is in form of penalties against the governments in accordance with the terms of agreement. Most of the abandoned projects are victims of these sharp practices. Alani Akinrinade, minister of industries, told NEWSWATCH: "People come into this country with the view that Nigeria is a gold mine."

Nigeria Machine Tools Limited is typical of many government projects that have invariably benefited foreigners more than Nigerians. Government took the wrong step with the project from the beginning. The feasibility study was done by HMT which also prepared the project formulation report dated April, 1981. This report formed part of the joint venture agreement signed by both parties. In effect, HMT wrote the agreement and made sure its interests were fully protected. The agreement gave the Indian company total control of the Nigerian company. Take staffing for instance. In 1983, before the company ground to a halt, there were 131 employees in the company, 21 of whom were Indians. All the management positions, from the post of managing director, were occupied by Indians. Only the company secretary was a Nigerian.

The Indians got away with this because the agreement empowered them to provide all the technical and engineering staff. There was a loophole. The agreement did not specify the number of specialist engineers and technicians HMT could bring from its home country. It, therefore, did as it saw fit.

An expert committee set up by Mahmud Tukur, then minister of industries, in March 1985, to undertake an indepth study of the Nigeria Tools Company, observed that this loophole in the agreement "whether intentional or not, has given room for abuse. For example, some erection and commissioning staff were brought in prematurely to Nigeria. Such staff were engaged to operate xerox photo-copying machine and to purchase office utilities and domestic needs such as toilet rolls, soap, gas, etc."

In its letter, the committee in Osogbo made the same point and went on to name names. It said M. L. Kaushal, with the official title of engineer—equipment, and on annual salary of N13,000, "is only in charge of buying furniture and other household/office equipment." Another was B. D. Jain, engineer—project, on a salary of N13,000, whose only job, the committee said, "is ending telex messages to India and Europe." J. Raghavendara, a junior project engineer on a salary of N10,000 a year, had the important job of "purchasing biros, lead pencils and other stationery items for the company."

The expert committee also found that HMT exploited that aspect of the joint venture agreement under which its equity was to be paid up through the supply of machines and equipment. It supplied substandard equipment at high prices. In some cases, it supplied what

was hardly needed. Akinrinade said HMT supplied over 100 lathes. These were more than twice what the company needed. HMT also brought in N5 million worth of industrial salt when it was hardly needed. The company now has to bury the salt which, in any case, has expired. The money has been wasted and HMT has lost nothing.

HMT determined what machines and equipment to import. Its staff in India fixed the prices and ordered such machines and equipment. Invariably, these cost even more than similar equipment in Nigeria. The expert committee made detailed comparison of prices of some of the equipment HMT sold to the company. It found, for instance, that a lathe similar to Vikram lathe supplied by HMT costs N8,500 at Bertola while the one from India was sold to the company for N15,000; Pillar drilling machine costs N570 at Bertola but the Indians sold theirs to the company for N3,550. The committee estimated that the prices of tools supplied by HMT were between 128-228 percent above the actual prices.

Equally unhelpful to Nigeria is the issue of remuneration and management fees paid to the Indians. The agreement provides for a lump sum of \$5,417,200 as management fee to HNT; yet provision is also made for a project formulation fee of \$1,389,600; a fee of \$1,235,098 for technical documentation for all the product mix; training charges of \$230 per month per trainee, erection and commissioning fee, remuneration of all personnel from India, 15 percent of whose salaries and allowances is paid to them towards their social cost in India.

Akinrinade said the Indians had a field day because "we didn't know what it was all about. We did not try to locate Nigerians with a basic knowledge of this thing to keep the people in line."

The same can be said for a number of other major government projects which have ended belly up after gulping large sums of money from the public coffers, because, in the words of Adebayo, "a lot of technical partners in various projects have really siphoned our funds and cheated us."

In 1979, Nigeria Machine Tools Limited was a N57 million project. In 1988, it is a N250 million project. It is significant to note that the federal government paid up its equity share of N17.5 million. The company also obtained a loan of N58 million. Yet, even despite the down turn in the nation's economy, how was it impossible to complete this project as it was envisaged. Nearly all government projects have been put through a similar financial crisis. Experts who spoke to NEWSWATCH offered two explanations for this. Firstly, foreign partners deliberately underprice the projects to convince government. More often than not, governments are attracted by the low cost and, eager to be seen to be doing something significant for the people, accept. But as soon as the project is accepted, the foreign partners draw up a

technical agreement in which they cleverly build in a number of clauses which make it possible for them to revise the original cost upwards.

Secondly, all contracts with foreign partners stipulate certain payments in foreign exchange. For instance, the agreement on the Osogbo machine tools stipulates the following payments: a chief erection engineer, \$7,800 per month; specialist engineers, \$7,800 per person per month; erection technicians, \$6,000 per person per month.

Some of these payments are tied to penalty clauses. For instance, the agreement between the federal government and T Com Limited, the company which won the contract for the controversial aerostat balloon project, provides for the payment of N10,000 a day to the company as penalty if work stopped at the instance of government. No similar penalty was provided for the contractor should the fault be its own.

In 1982, Mike Ugwu, chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Communications, told a stunned nation that government, indeed, had been paying the penalty since work stopped on the balloon project six years ago as at that time. That year, when the Shagari administration decided to go ahead with the project, the contractor submitted claims for N30 million being accumulated penalties. Government paid N16 million.

Work is often grounded if a government accumulates these payments and finds it difficult to pay. There are several instances where commissioning of projects have been delayed because of this. The contractors usually hold the trump card in such cases. They hold on to vital parts of equipment without which the project cannot take off.

Work on the federal ocean terminal at Onne, Rivers State, is a good case study. The federal government awarded contract for the project to a Dutch firm, Adrian Volker Civil Engineering International, in 1980. The original cost of the project was N127.8 million. This later rose to N297.729 million. The astronomical escalation alarmed federal authorities and, in 1985, the Buhari administration ordered the Justice Awogu Commission to look into the contract. Tayo Akpata, one time chairman of the board of the Nigerian Ports Authority, owners of the terminal, told the commission the board was surprised to hear of the escalation cost. He said contract for the project was awarded to the firm even before it was advertised. He said that the board made efforts to renegotiate the cost downwards but that these failed.

In 1983, work on the project was abandoned. A representative of the company, Rob L. P. Buitelner, told NEWSWATCH that problems started when government suspended further payments to the contractors after work worth N153 million had been completed. The

contractors claimed they were owed Dutch guilder equivalent of N60 million in accumulated payments and insisted that the money be paid before work would resumed.

Now, there is a new twist. At the time government accumulated the debt, the exchange rate was 3.5 Dutch guilder to the naira. The current exchange rate is 0.40 guilder to the naira. The contractors now say government has to repay the debt based on the current exchange rate. Buitelner put this at N540 million. In addition to this, dependable sources told NEWSWATCH N50 million is needed to complete the project. It is estimated that the government will need to spend about N990 million before the project is completed. Buitelner said "new calculations for the completion of the job are being done annually" by the parent company in Holland.

The site of the terminal is an ugly but familiar face of an abandoned project. Abandoned and broken down vehicles, construction equipment in various stages of disuse, uncompleted warehouses, concrete slabs and a partially built deck tell the story most graphically. Containers said to contain large quantities of building materials are there, exposed to the harsh elements. Cranes, frozen in active service five years go, keep a forlorn watch. Then there is a partially built control tower and customs gate. The housing estate built for the comfort of some 120 expatriate workers of the contracting firm are almost bare. There are only four occupants left. These are the men hoping that work would resume soon. Buitelner said negotiation is going on between federal government officials and representatives of the company. Officially, however, the contract has since been terminated. If work is to resume, a new contract will certainly be entered into by both parties.

This will hardly cost little money. Buitelner said that most of what had been done would be destroyed for a fresh start. About 50 percent of the contract work will now have to go. Said Buitelner: "Working daily, it would take one year for us to get back to the point where we stopped in 1983. After mobilisation of the equipment abandoned five years ago, it would take another two years to complete the job."

Whatever is the decision either way, government has lost substantially on the project. About 90 percent of the construction materials are imported from Europe. Buitelner explained: "It cost a lot of money. But because of the quantities and quality we needed, we had no choice but to import everything." And these included materials available locally. Most of the imported materials are no longer usable. They have deteriorated beyond use. If work is to resume and if the contracting firm is allowed to import its materials, the chances are that a new contract, considering current rate of foreign exchange, will be more than three times the original cost.

"Honestly, I am bothered about this hotel. I wish it is completed on time for the benefit of our people and the state." That was Ishaya Bakut, a brigadier, speaking to NEWSWATCH in March 1987. Bakut was a governor of Benue State. The hotel giving headache was the Makurdi Sheraton Hotel. Contract for the hotel was awarded to Sefri Construction International by the civilian government of the late Aper Aku in January 1982, for N19 million. This later escalated to N29.75 million and is now more than N37.7 million. The contractors stopped work on the hotel in 1984 for "lack of building materials; non-payment of accruing rents on Sefri's containers at the port and non-payment of certificate of work completed issued by the government itself."

But 90 percent of the contract fee has been paid to Sefri with only 45 percent of the work down. Jonah Jang, a group captain and the then governor of Benue State, ordered a judicial commission of enquiry "to ascertain circumstances that led to the abandonment of work on the hotel," in 1986. But nothing has changed the picture. Two problems remain. The contract for the hotel was weighted in favour of the contractors. There was no indemnity clause which would compel the contractors to make good whatever losses the state may sustain through its non-performances or delays. Sefri has, therefore, found it easy to suspend work. Government now feels helpless because it cannot force them to resume work. Perhaps, more disturbing is the fact that a foreign loan was obtained for the hotel project. Although work has been abandoned, the government of Benue State still has to repay the loan with interest.

The fate of Makurdi Sheraton can be duplicated a hundred times. A good number of abandoned projects are tied to foreign loans. And often, these loans are tied to the purchase of materials and equipment from the country from which the loan was secured. This is often why materials and equipment are imported even before civil works have been completed for these projects. Where, as in the case of the balloon project, civil works are caught up in either bureaucratic bottleneck for lack of money, such equipment, some of them very delicate and sophisticated, are simply abandoned outside and exposed to the elements. By the time they are to be installed, they are often found to have become useless. Several NIPOST projects, such as post offices, are in this category. In some cases, like the new Makurdi post office, the buildings could not take the equipment.

Successive governments, at federal and state levels, are the inheritors of projects in various stages of uncompletion. Some abandoned; some contracts are re-awarded and yet others have been scrapped after much money without hope of recovery have been wasted on them. A familiar feature of some of these projects is the beauty of their presentation to government by the foreign firms. The balloon project is a classical case. Nigeria, like all developing countries, has a sustained faith in improved means of communications—roads, telephone, air and sea. This faith has been its undoing in several instances.

The balloon project is a beauty in this respect. It was designed to give the country 21st century communication links, even with the rural areas. There would be better reception of telephone, radio and television services. Nigerians in one state will be able to tune to the television programmes of other states.

In 1974, the late General Murtala Ramat Muhammed was commissioner for communications. He and his officials listened to a presentation of a new, sophisticated telecommunication marvel by representatives of an American company, T Com. At the end of it, Muhammed was impressed. And he fell for it. But some of his officials did not share his enthusiasm. Ime Ebong, permanent secretary in the ministry, was one of those who felt unconvinced. And he said so. He and Muhammed clashed at a cabinet meeting over this. But Muhammed had his way.

Two years after negotiation started on the project, contract for it was signed on February 12, 1976, ironically, a day before Muhammed was assassinated in a coup attempt. For N89,824,018, Nigeria would have a modern telecommunication system within 34 months. The balloons, each the size of a Boeing 747, would be suspended 10,000 feet above the sea level, their wonders to perform. The project would be located in five centres, namely at Yekemi village near Ile-Ife, Oyo State, for the south-west zone; Adani near Nusukka, Anambra State, for the south-east zone; Pankshin, Plateau State, for the north-west zone; Jos for the north-central and Damaru, Borno State, for the north-east zone.

Twelve years after the promise of better communication facilities was committed to paper, the balloon project has become a national nightmare. It has been probed once. Another six-man panel headed by Emma Edem, a group captain, is at work, trying to find out who played what role in the disaster that has cost the nation some N140 million. The contract agreement, as usual, made no provision for indemnity.

International Glass Industries, Aba, Imo State, presents yet another face of the great rip off story in Nigeria. It has been there for 12 years. Still, it has not produced one sheet of glass. The first contract for the project was signed between the then East Central State government and International Engineering S.P.A. Inglen of Italy on October 12, 1974. No one seems to remember the original contract sum which, in any case, was revised upwards in September 1976 and re-signed June 22, 1979.

When the civilians took over October 1979, the industry became a major political focal point. At an elaborate foundation stone laying ceremony November 28, 1980, the then state governor, Sam Mbakwe, disclosed that Ultrafin AG of Switzerland had provided the N83 million needed for the construction of the industry. Government expenses, he said, would be limited to provision of infrastructures and the payment of customs duties for

machines and equipment to be imported for the factory. It was expected the industry would be ready to go into production in 1982. It didn't happen.

This is all the more surprising because 90 percent of the work had been done. Trouble began when the contractor packed up and left to protest non-payment for work done. And now some of the equipment have similarly gone to rot. The furnaces are gone.

By the time the contractors left, Aba glass factory had gulped N160 million. Amadi Ikwechegh, governor of Imo State, was livid. Last year, he fired the board of the company and appointed a new one with an engineer, Thomas Ogbuji, as chairman. He also appointed a former accountant-general of the state as financial manager of the company and employed the services of a US consultancy, Pas-Kleen and Roe Associates, to oversee the project for a fee of N10 million. The government, satisfied with the changes, expressed the hope that "with these reforms, sanity would be injected into the industry."

So far, that hope has not changed anything in the industry. With a work force of 160, IGI sells sand, its raw materials, to NAFCON, Onne, in Bendel State, to survive. This is the only form of visible activity going on there at the moment. Chris Madu, company secretary and head of administration of the company, told NEWS-WATCH: "It is amazing to find how much work we have done since we came in, considering what we met." But he would not be drawn into saying what it is they have done. Ikwechegh is not the first governor of the state to tackle the problems of IGI. Nor was he the first to hope that a few changes would result in the fulfillment of promises. In December 1983, Mbakwe, presenting his 1984 budget to the state house of assembly, said "the giant International Glass Industry at Aba had consumed a total investment of N120 million." He set aside five million naira in the new budget to work on it. That month, the civilian administration was toppled.

Ike Nwachukwu, now a major-general and minister of external affairs, took over as governor of Imo State. In one of his first comments on the project, he said "positive steps have been taken to provide outstanding facilities and funds required to commission IGI before the end of 1985." It did not happen. But that year, N19.2 million was given to the state ministry of commerce and industry as "part of the requirements for completing and re-activating the IGI and some other industries in the state."

Any hopes the IGI will produce glass soon may be misplaced. Before the contractors left, apparently in disagreement over payments with the government, the installed equipment was tested. Experts told NEWS-WATCH that the life span of the kiln depends on constant use. Heating is at a constant 1,700 [figure as published] degrees celsius and once the oven is heated, production must continue non-stop for at least four

years. If production stops suddenly, the kiln is destroyed. This, NEWSWATCH learnt, is what has happened to IGI. After the test run, the over was switched off. And now the kiln has collapsed. To reactivate it, a new kiln has to be installed. And that costs a lot of money.

An expert who talked extensively with NEWSWATCH and who requested not to be identified, said IGI is a good example of industrial projects embarked upon by government without prior knowledge of what it entails either in terms of personnel and production or even technical requirements. He said what motivated the then East Central State government to embark on the project was the availability of sand suitable for glass making at Azumini. "It seems to me that no one bothered to find out what it would take to produce glass from this raw material. And once the project had been started, successive governments, for purely political reasons, have latched on to it, afraid even to critically examine what shape the project is taking. Each governor had assumed that pumping money into it was all that was required. Yet, clearly, the more money they pumped into it, the less likely it becomes for the industry to be anything but a promise in the near future."

Nigeria's ambition for rapid industrial and economic development is very well known. But it does appear that foreigners have always taken advantage of this. There are, as is in the case of the balloon project, non-starter technologies used in only a few places and almost exclusively for military purposes, projects that are unsuitable for the country at its level of economic development. But government resistance against such projects is abysmally low. Foreign partners offer to train Nigerians over a specific period to take over from them. In most cases, the training facility becomes a means of perpetuating the indispensability of the foreigners. They don't organise the trainings according to agreement and thus make sure there are no qualified Nigerians to take over from them.

Already the fear of this happening is rife at the National Fertilizer Company, NAFCON, at Onne. The company is a joint venture between the federal government and M. W. Kellog, an American company. Equity is in the ratio of 70 to 30 percent for the federal government and Kellog respectively. Under the agreement, Kellog is to sell off its shares to the government four years after commissioning. It is also to train Nigerians who will eventually take over from the foreigners.

NEWSWATCH received mixed signals in this respect from sources close to NAFCON. Monima Lawson, resident site engineer, commended Kellog for the way it has handled the project. "This is the first time," he said, "that Nigerians, especially the young ones, have been involved in such high technology from the scratch to the end." Other sources agreed that Kellog is doing well in the training of middle-level manpower. Their fear is that the company has so far shown some reluctance in the training of Nigerians for the key technical and managerial positions.

But Ombo Isokrari, deputy managing director of the company, assured that for such key positions, there are Nigerian understudies attached to the expatriates. He hoped though, that "the foreigners don't stay beyond that four-year period." Said Lawson: "If the Nigerian government does not press hard to have Nigerian understudies for the key positions and insist that they are trained, then it will not be possible to completely Nigerianise the operations of the plant within the four-year period."

Part of the reason for the anxiety over the length of stay of the foreigners has to do with another aspect of the joint venture contract: money. NAFCON was conceived as an answer to the country's dependence on fertilizer imports for which it spends about half a billion naira a year. The factory, commissioned early in the year, produces urea and various other grades of fertilizers to meet 70 to 80 percent of local demands.

NAFCON is, by all estimates, a grand project. No expenses have been spared on it. Its initial cost estimate was N300 million. But by July 1984, the cost had gone up to N689 million. Isokrari told NEWSWATCH "nobody knows what the final cost will be." He spoke to NEWSWATCH before the commissioning of the plant. He said "a high percentage of the plant is offshore, having come from Japan and the United States. He said NAFCON needed \$150 million as operating capital.

Experts are questioning the cost of the project. One of them who is familiar with similar projects elsewhere, told NEWSWATCH: It's a rip-off, I tell you." He said NAFCON ought not to have cost between \$150 to \$200 million. Its cost, as at 1984, of N689 million when the exchange rate was \$1.3 to the naira, would be about \$895.7 million—nearly three times what the expert said it ought to have cost.

Perhaps, part of the high cost of the project has to do with the emoluments of the expatriate experts. There are at least 100 of them at NAFCON. Dependable sources said that some of them earn between \$200,000 to \$250,000 per annum. At the current rate of exchange of N4.3 to the dollar, it means that expatriate salaries alone consume as much as N40 million a year.

Such high cost of government projects, partly in the construction industry, worried President Shehu Shagari so much he decided to find out why. In 1981, he appointed a nine-man committee headed by Sunday Essang, minister of finance, to (a) examine critically the current procedures and conditions relating to the award of government contracts in the country and determine how far and realistic the prices arrived therefrom for works and services are compared with the going rates in other countries both in the developed and developing worlds; (b) if the costs of works and services in Nigeria are above the average in other countries as is generally believed, to identify the areas in the cost build-up where

higher pricing(s) are prevalent and the factors responsible therefore; and (c) to make recommendations for an alternative system to the current procedure and/or suggest ways of eliminating or, at least, reducing considerably, areas of unjustified cost escalations in contracts for works and services so as to make them comparable with unit costings in other countries.

The committee made some interesting findings. It found that in Nigeria, the cost of structure of the construction industry is "relatively higher than in other countries." It is higher than what obtains in Kenya and Algeria, the latter an oil-producing nation like Nigeria, by as much as 200 percent and 130 percent respectively. The committee identified the following causes for the disparity between Nigeria and other countries at a comparable level of development. One: It said "the increase in the volume of construction activity in recent years has not been matched by an increase in executive capacity and this has resulted in sectoral inflation." Two: It said "the 'rush strategy' has led to the waiving of important elements of tender and contract procedure aimed at the proper evaluation of tenders and efficient monitoring of contract costs." Three: "The bulk of construction work in Nigeria is carried out by foreign-managed firms. The oligopolistic structure of the industry dominated by this category of firms may result in collusion. In addition, the heavy overhead costs in the form of expatriate staff salary, housing, etc., are contributory to high unit rates and the consequent high construction costs." Four: "Local manufacturing capacity with respect to material inputs into the construction industry is inadequate to meet the industry's requirements." And five: "The delay on the part of client ministries to pay for interim certificates for works done has resulted in most contractors allowing for finance charges in their rates and consequent high construction costs."

The committee hit the bull's eye. The Nigerian Society of Engineers and the association of consulting engineers submitted a joint memorandum to the Essang committee. Both bodies offered the same reasons advanced by the committee. They went further to identify the various types of contracts and how each has contributed to the problems facing the country. These are the lump sum contract, the nominated single tender, contractor-finance contract, joint venture contract, cost plus operatives, design and construct, package deal, simultaneous operations and turnkey projects.

Government resorts to each of these types for various reasons. According to the memorandum, the nominated single contract whereby "a single contractor is invited to submit a tender for a project," is preferred "most often because government wants a job completed rather hurriedly and, therefore, saves on time required to go through normal contract." Sometimes, this proves very costly to the government. Worse, the nation's landscape is littered with contracts given out by governments wishing to complete projects in a hurry. In the end, they get stuck, and the shortest way home becomes the longest

trip to the wilderness. For the contractor-financed project, "the contractor arranges finance and bargains terms of payment that usually result in high cost of construction." The joint venture contract has equally proved wasteful and expensive to the country. The memorandum points out that "the contractor acts both as builder and technical partner, bringing equipment and technical personnel as substitutes for cash at a highly inflated rate as his equity participation." Nigeria Machines Tools, Osogbo, is a graphic illustration of this form of rip-off.

To these, Akinrinade added the factors of corruption. He told NEWSWATCH that bribe is built into contract costs by the contractors. Various probes since the military took over December 1983 have proved this fact. Many former public officers—governors, commissioners, ministers and even other lesser officials—went to jail for receiving kickbacks from contractors. In some cases, these kickbacks run into millions of naira. The fact that the contractors are willing to pay the money shows that it is built in and, therefore, does not affect their profit margins. Bisi Onabanjo, former governor of Ogun State, went to jail for receiving a N2.8 million kickback from Bouygues. This represented ten percent of the contract sum. Similarly, Feugerolle Nigeria Limited was alleged to have given N22 million to the banned National Party of Nigeria, NPN. This represented 7.5 percent of the contract sum of N329 million awarded the company by the NPN-controlled government.

The Peter Obasa's National Youth Service Corps was also a gold mine for contractors and officials alike. Both Obasa and his director of finance and administration, F. Killa, are in jail for receiving kickbacks each in excess of N10 million and other expensive gifts from contractors.

The general cited something else: changes in government. He said that these worry contractors who are always apprehensive that such changes may result in new rules and regulations that may adversely affect their interests. "They cost projects to stay on the safe side," he said.

Rip off does not always take the shape and form of excessive cost of projects. It is also perpetuated through other ingenious methods. One of these is the absence of linkages in Nigeria's industrial ventures. Almost every project is conceived and executed in total isolation of others. The motor assembly plants are good examples of this. Under the agreement with Peugeot and Volkswagen, according to the minister of industries, most of the imported semi- and completely knocked down parts were to be replaced with local inputs within seven years. This has not happened in either case and, therefore, the much-bruited about transfer of technology is years off. This is not entirely the fault of the foreign partners. Corruption on the part of government officials is also part of the problem. Giving the assembly plants import licences to bring in CKDs guaranteed foreign exchange kickbacks, according to a reliable industry source.

Akinrinade said the situation is changing. The assembly plants are being forced, because of the high cost of foreign exchange, to produce the necessary parts locally. He said Volkswagen of Nigeria, for instance, is setting up an industrial village where small- and medium-scale parts manufacturers can produce vehicle parts under supervision to ensure the parts comply with industry standards. "To be fair," he said, "we had a wrong policy. That policy did not make for developing the assembly plants into a motor industry."

The steel industry faces the problem of lack of linkages. Both rail and water transportation systems, which ought to be forerunners to this heavy industry, are not in place. What is worse, the Itakpe iron ore, the raw materials that made the Ajaokuta steel industry a wise investment, is yet to be exploited. In the end, this country continues to run in circles, deriving little benefits from its massive investments in industrial, social and economic ventures. Officialdom may not suspect, but this country is an all comers pot of porridge.

/9274

Editorial Decries Military 'Stray Bullets' Killing Civilians

34000654a Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English
27 May 88 p 1

[Text] The incidence of civilians inadvertently killed or maimed by military personnel while undertaking shooting practice is becoming regular and disturbing. Only last month stray bullets hit a mother and her child in their home in Kano State. And in the Cross River State, a mother of 12 was killed by a "stray bullet believed to have come from a shooting range."

If nothing is done to stop these unintended but nonetheless indiscriminate shooting of civilians, the authorities may soon face another dimension of strained relationship between civilians and the military. Normally, in this circumstance, one expects remorse. Sadly however some reactions from military officials leave much to be desired. For instance, the statement credited to one Captain S.C. Kofo of the military unit in Cross River State whose shooting exercise led to the death of one person to the effect that his unit could not be blamed because it had earlier "alerted the public through the local government council on the danger," is simply callous.

Such statements made by one whose members have caused bereavement to a family does not help in improving the public image of the army as the people's protector.

Captain Kofo is right that the public should keep away from shooting ranges, but his statement assumes that every person would have heard such warnings. Few, if any local governments, have this kind of reach. In any case once life is lost the proper public posture is one of remorse not of rationalization. To halt these killings however, the military needs to relocate its shooting ranges far from the vicinity of human habitation. In situations where barracks are near civilian conurbations, shooting practices should be done in specific places far removed from human activities.

Barring this, the military should think of constructing enclosed shooting ranges, probably underground ones where bullets are least likely to fly about and endanger the lives of people.

08309

Strategy of AIDS Prevention Program Reviewed
34190113 Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 21 Mar 88 p 2

[Article by Jean Pires]

[Excerpts] The workshop on combating AIDS held last 10 and 11 March at Seydou Nourou Tall Center in Saly Portudal kicked off a drive to make the public aware of the activities of the National Committee to Prevent AIDS (CNPS). The group of private and semi-public physicians and medical technicians gathered at Saly for a seminar organized jointly with the private and semi-public section of the Family Health and Population Project were the first to receive exhaustive information on AIDS, its progress in the world, its clinical manifestations, and the resources marshalled internationally to combat the epidemic. A quick inventory of the AIDS epidemic in the world based on WHO's January 1988 census turns up a figure of 73,747 AIDS cases. The first fact to strike the reader is that the number of countries declaring AIDS cases is on the rise. There are 129 of them today. The Senegalese epidemiologist Dr. Mboup commented that there is now no country that can boast it is AIDS-free.

There are 48,000 declared cases in the United States (about 7,500 for the other countries in the American continent), around 8,800 cases in Europe, and 8,600 in Africa (this figure is considered an underestimate). Asia seems to be the least affected continent, with 229 cases, and Oceania has nearly 700 cases. It is important to note that declared cases are only the tip of the iceberg and that there are between 150,00 and 300,000 real cases. This also means that there are 5 to 10 million healthy carriers of the HIV virus.

"This is the great tragedy of AIDS," declared Dr. Mboup. The problem is the rapid and substantial progression in the number of cases: they double nearly every 6 months in the United States. Epidemiologists, while not wishing to sound like purveyors of doom, believe that by 1991 the virus will spread to one million people, and that is assuming that between now and then a vaccine will have been discovered that will allow the spread to be halted. This gives some idea of the vigilance that must be practiced by all inhabitants of the globe.

In Africa, where transmission is primarily heterosexual, the incidence of the disease is increasing among women in particular. The high-risk group of prostitutes is reason enough to cry halt in some countries: 80 percent of the prostitutes in Africa are seropositive. The other tragedy is that AIDS affects primarily the young, precisely those whose strength is counted on to support development efforts.

The WHO confirms it and national programs make no mistake about it: "individual action is the key to preventing AIDS."

National Prevention Program—The Strategy Is Being Implemented

National steps to prevent AIDS in Senegal were taken following a preliminary epidemiological study on retroviruses done in 1984 under a Dakar- Harvard-Limoges-Tours university agreement. Based on the results of this investigation and aware of the rapid spread of the HIV virus, the Senegalese Government considered it urgent to forestall this social plague by first creating a national, multidisciplinary committee to prevent AIDS: the CNPS. Next, a national program to combat AIDS was drafted, and, lastly, executed.

The CNPS is responsible for:

- devising a national strategy to prevent AIDS
- coordinating all studies, research, and initiatives in all sectors related to AIDS
- preparing regulatory and legislative provisions to combat AIDS
- informing authorities on the AIDS situation in Senegal
- informing the minister of health of all AIDS cases for notification to WHO.

The long- and medium-term national program to prevent AIDS was jointly drafted and adopted by the CNPS and the World AIDS Program in Geneva in July 1987, as part of the world-wide strategy against AIDS.

The principal objectives of the program are:

- to monitor the spread of the epidemic
- to reduce sexual transmission
- to eliminate the risk of transmission via blood
- to improve the care of seropositive or AIDS patients
- to develop and coordinate research.

The total cost of the National Program to Prevent AIDS for a five-year period is 1,476 billion CFA francs. At a meeting of moneylenders held in Dakar the 15 and 16 February, 1988, 1.7 million US dollars (around 510 million CFA francs) were collected to underwrite the activities of the CNPS for the first year of the program.

Well before this meeting, however, the Senegalese Government had made sure, with the support of the World AIDS Program in Geneva and certain moneylenders, that high-priority activities of the AIDS program would be initiated.

Systematic testing for the HIV virus in blood donors was begun, as was HIV testing, examination, and follow-up among prostitutes registered in the prostitutes' social and health files. The education of health professionals and the general public was launched.

Execution of the program calls for strengthening existing infrastructures for AIDS testing; this includes the National Blood Transfusion Center, the main Dakar hospital, the Dakar University Hospital Center laboratory of bacteriology and virology, and the Dakar Pasteur Institute, where it will be possible to confirm HIV testing.

Program plans include bolstering initiatives to prevent sexually transmitted diseases (STD), including AIDS, in STD and family-planning centers; training regional lab assistants in AIDS detection techniques; systematic AIDS testing among prostitutes registered in the health files, with periodic follow-up and examination of seropositive patients; making condoms available in STD and family-planning centers; educating midwives in order to limit perinatal transmission of the HIV virus; and drafting AIDS notification forms available in medical units..

It is important to point out that there are no restrictive measures concerning AIDS in Senegal. Persons who are

HIV seropositive or afflicted with AIDS must be considered patients. They have the right to diagnosis and treatment and must be taken care of.

In the short term (1987-1992), there will be testing of blood donors in the blood banks of other regions, and HIV testing in the military health services, and port, school, hotel and prison health services. In addition, a vast public information and education program, and a program to educate health professionals, are in the planning stages.

Thanks to steps already taken, the AIDS epidemic remains controllable in Senegal. There are now 70 officially recorded cases in the country. The CNPS, under its mandate from the Senegalese government, is discreetly and efficiently acting to combat the epidemic. Its efforts made it possible, as a top priority, to check the transmission of the HIV virus in two high-risk population groups: prostitutes and blood donors. The fight against AIDS demands coordination at the sub-regional, regional and international level.

(Excerpted from "National Measures for the Prevention of AIDS in Senegal", by Dr. Ibra Ndoeye, CNPS coordinator.

09825

POLITICAL

P. W. Botha Said Responsible for Opposition Successes

34010055a Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
22 Apr 88 p 9

[Commentary by Dr Jan S. Marais, former National Party Member of Parliament for Pinetown: "Attack! NP, the People Lack Vision"; first paragraph is BEELD introduction]

[Text] There is no practical attainable alternative other than the National Party to solve South Africa's problems, writes Dr Jan S. Marais, former National Party Member of Parliament for Pinetown. But the party must go over to the attack. Dr Marais, founder and first managing director of the Trust Bank, is nowadays executive chairman of the Cape Town consulting company, Jan S. Marais Hannaford & Associates. He offered the following contribution to BEELD for publication.

The leading media, including those which have supported the government, recently emphasized the progress of the KP [Conservative Party] and the AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement], and it may be inferred that they did that in a sympathetic and honest manner in order to clearly show their distress.

Thus the question is: What is the general broad perspective of the common man in relation to the NP and its policy?

The fact is that whether BEELD's readers like the State President or not, he has brought about more desperately needed reform in a few years than all his predecessors together over more than 300 years.

Thus, why is his opposition making so much progress?

According to the frank opinion of his many supporters, it is certainly not due to the unavoidable and highly necessary reform which he brought about, but simply to a long series of practical, psychological and public relations-related shortcomings of which the following is only a small example:

—The "vagueness" of NP policy, versus a clear picture of the opposition, no matter how dangerous and unachievable the policy of the latter perhaps may be.

For almost 4 decades I have personally pleaded innumerable times for the spelling out of a "vision" or "setting of a mission" or a "blueprint," or whatever one wants to call it, for our future South Africa. It ought to be explained in simple, easily understandable language how the government envisions our future, even if it is only an approximation.

That "vision" then ought to be aggressively marketed among the population, in such a manner that they can become enthusiastic about it. Naturally adjustments have to take place along the way, but it will at least give some direction.

In the latter context I have always proposed a step-by-step movement toward a federation of mainly self-governing communities. Not a slavish copying of the Swiss "canton system," but something with most of the characteristics of that system. No racism or discrimination.

And, truly, I believe that we are already moving toward that type of constitutional system. Indications of that are, for example, the Natal-Indaba, the independent and self-governing black state, the regional councils and the transfer of power to local governments.

The marketing of such a system will be fairly easy because we can relate it to similarly successful systems in countries which differ from each other such as Switzerland from Yugoslavia, one capitalist country, the other socialist. But the systems work.

Also remember the biblical reprimand: "Where there is no vision/My people shall perish."

There is also a lack of humble service-oriented contact with the common man and woman.

Not enough "handshaking" is done with the farmers' foremen and their workers, with the bartender, the chef and the waiters in hotels and restaurants, with office clerks, and so on.

Dignitaries such as ministers and other leading figures no longer make enough trips to isolated places to meet people and talk with them.

The State President set a marvelous example with respect to the coloreds with his visits to Soweto, Pietersburg and other black communities. I myself remember only too well how I won Pinetown, which was considered unconquerable by everyone, by applying the "Kennedy formula" of drinking coffee, eating cake and making home-to-home and person-to-person calls.

Just travel from Johannesburg to the surrounding countryside and you will continually see posters advertising meetings of the KP and the AWB. They must be given credit: these people "are alive," they are always "up and about" and always on the attack. Also, they are not vague but specific about their "prediction," whether it is practical and attainable or not. Perhaps it is good to remember what Confucius said: "Fire always makes room for itself."

The image of "big business," "big capitalists...."

Yes, certainly, personally I have advised the government for many years to move closer to businessmen, the private sector, and it is true that Carlton, Good Hope and many other valuable meetings followed.

But at the same time I said specifically "Please, don't make the same mistake as the crumbling PFP [Progressive Federal Party] by leaving out the small- and medium-sized businesses and trades.

Well, with the aid of certain media which have been giving all their publicity mainly to "big businesses," the NP is now also seen as being primarily good friends with "big businesses" in the first place.

In this manner the NP has alienated itself at least to a certain degree from the small and medium businessmen and the professions, and is now seen as being closer to the executive officers of "big businesses," most of whom are in reality merely clerks who retire at a fairly early age.

Political war is seldom won by concentrating exclusively or primarily on this category of people, as the PFP had to learn to its great dismay.

The powerful, large and dominating bureaucracy is in many cases too slow-moving to keep matters up to date on a daily basis, and it is lacking in humble helpfulness.

It is part of the tragedy of South Africa that we continue to "drown" in an ocean of laws, rules and regulations. It is true, the State President tries his best, but the process of decay remains too constant.

It is also true that there are many who have great sympathy for the so-called bureaucracy. It is not one's own creation and it is often blamed for the sins of others; for the excessive laws, rules and regulations which in many cases are beyond human capacity to be strictly enforced.

Now related to this is the deplorable worsening in a relatively short period of time of the once brilliant and magnificent service of South African Airlines. Currently there are never-ending delays, which is frustrating, disruptive, as well as expensive, and which alienates people from the government. The government is blamed.

Then there are those money- and time-wasting occasions which do not improve the government in the eyes of hardworking and sacrificing people.

One of those is the annual "feathers show" in the Cape—meaning the expensive opening ceremony of Parliament—and other similar "luxuries" which are not necessary for a country where so much is needed for food, clothing, housing and education and where the productivity per capita is floating directly at the bottom of world standards. Why can't all those important people come to the Cape and start working?

The tremendous waste of money in and with respect to the independent black states for non-essential projects such as the leaders' "palaces," airports, etc.

All those expenditures must be borne at least to some extent by the already overtaxed South African taxpayer. The government must not forget that its opposition regularly and continually makes the voting public aware of that!

Right or wrong, there is backbiting about "jobs for pals" and recently about "favors to friends," which one might suspect to be political strategy.

Whether it is true or not, the Government ought to be cautious and follow a strategy according to which true merits and an unprejudiced attitude are always the obvious criteria. "Big" is not necessarily the best or most worthy!

Massive useless "nonsense," especially on TV, with too much emphasis on murder, rape, accidents, etcetera, in all parts of the world, instead of the desperately needed educational programs which sensible people are always waiting for.

For example, much more ought to be told to whites as well as coloreds about how we compare to others, especially our greatest critics. Naturally we, white and colored, must also be helped to know each other much better.

Then there is the "big fanfare" in connection with the control of wages of teachers and other groups of functionaries after a considerable increase "not too long ago" in the salaries of members of the government itself and the lack of amplifying and comparable increases over the last few years.

What about a comparison of the "sacrifices" by members of the government, the state functionaries and those by the private sector, as well as the way in which each of those respectively is affected by inflation. Who is to blame for inflation?

In general, the apparent great lack of understanding for the psychology of the common man and woman (grass-roots) and the practical necessity to attack and expose the opposition with respect to the impossibility of what they propagandize and the disastrous consequences their policy will lead to.

The Government must simply go and remain on the attack, especially by aggressively continuing with logical, essential and moral reform.

There is very little value in nice "slogans" and in an always increasing defense.... The government especially should not endlessly hide behind commissions and committees, while its opponents create the image that they know exactly what they want, explain it clearly and fight for it continually....

When emotion and common sense fight each other, there is always the tendency for emotion to win.

As soon as the government has created and explained an attainable "vision" or outlook, not only the people in government, but many others as well will start fighting for it with enthusiasm and "emotion."

In that manner an increasing number of people who now have misgivings or are drifting away, as well as many others, will move forward, together with the government, to a new South Africa.

Finally, just think for once with as little emotion as possible. Under the present circumstances and in view of the facts staring us in the face, is there really any practical attainable alternative but the NP?

8700

President Botha Discusses Future Role of President, Council
34010060c Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
2 May 88 p 2

[Text] Cape Town—The composition of the proposed electoral college for designating the state president and that of the new President's Council are among the subjects discussed by State President Mr P.W. Botha in the latest issue of DIE NASIONALIS, the house publication of the National Party.

He reveals further details concerning his next, already-announced reform measures.

In response to a question concerning how he foresees the possible involvement of blacks in the electoral college for the state president and under what circumstances, he said, "The independence process of national states is still encouraged. Some of these states can still become independent. And we are working together with them in a type of confederal association.

"Others will not be ready for many years, and some perhaps will never be ready for independence. Bodies must also be created for communities outside the national states, so that they can put forth their leaders.

"The state president can then play a greater role in bringing peace between the communities. He must play a unifying role."

President Botha said that for this reasons he envisages a prime minister to accept responsibility for the proper administration of the country. Too much is currently loaded on the office of the state president.

"The process of making countries independent should not be halted. However, you also cannot make countries independent that are not ripe for that step, thus creating an indigent breeding ground for disaster just outside your own door," President Botha said.

Referring to the new President's Council, he said that the present President's Council should assume the task of studying how it can be reformed.

"With respect to the decision-making function of the President's Council, there can be a much smaller body, consisting of seven or eleven people. First of all, a knowledge of law must be present, so that the constitutional implications can be interpreted. However, political parties must also be able to contribute.

"There must be a study of existing arrangements like this one in other parts of the world. Perhaps we could learn something that can be adapted to our own circumstances."

In response to the question of how the existing value systems can be protected in practice, President Botha said, "You can't always translate everything you stand for into definitions and then try to entrench this behind laws.

"However, these value systems are addressed broadly in the preamble to our Constitution. There is expression there of how we, as a society, should get along with one another.

"We should not always attempt to entrench ourselves in definitions, but rather built protection for our value systems into the structures that we create."

Africa has shown that it is very dangerous to think that you can negotiate constitutions and think that this is an adequate guarantee.

"I would argue that we should give a place of honor to the preamble to our Constitution. We must make this part of our life philosophy.

"The Rights Commission, under the chairmanship of a respected judge, is working on initiating a study into ways to protect group rights. I understand that it is well into its work, and that a report will be finalized in June.

"This will then be submitted to the government. There, consideration will be given to its proposals," President Botha said.

12271

Withdrawal From Angola Seen as Capitulation to State Department

34010064b Pretoria *DIE AFRIKANER* in Afrikaans
11 May 88 p 2

[Editorial: "Angola and Southwest Africa"]

[Text] The so-called peace conference in London involving representatives of South Africa, Angola, and the United States is taking place under mysterious circumstances. Just prior to it there was an official announcement that South Africa's troops were being withdrawn from Angola because the South African Defense Force had achieved its objective. In that announcement there was no mention of a precondition that the Cuban troops must be withdrawn from Angola. Now it has been announced that instead of the Cuban forces being withdrawn, 6,000 new Cuban soldiers have landed in Angola to reinforce the 40,000 who are already there.

These two facts point out contradictory postures: The South African announcement is a gesture of retreat in the face of aggressive Cuban provocation. Is the South African action a sign of unwillingness to continue fighting and the Cuban action a sign of obstinacy in the struggle?

In light of these facts and conclusions the conference in London is anything but reassuring. And the aversion is further strengthened by the fact that the participating parties are, in fact, in a 3 to 1 relationship. Cuba and Angola are clearly in one camp with Russia as its source of support. The United States can by no means be regarded as an ally or champion of South Africa. Dr Chester Crocker represents the American State Department which has been characterized more than once already as a more dangerous enemy of South Africa than the Kremlin. And what makes that misgiving even worse is that he will act as chairman shortly after having had a discussion with his Russian counterpart.

South Africans should not cheerfully accept Botha's assurances in this regard. Certain facts must always be borne in mind. The surrendering of Rhodesia to the communists, for example, began with "detente" and the withdrawal of the South African Police from the battle front. General Lloyd, former commander in Southwest Africa/Angola, has expressly stated in this connection that the South African Government is placing obstacles in the way of a military victory because it is seeking a political solution. And the most telling statement was made by Mr P. W. Botha himself when he said that time is being won through the military conflict so that solutions can be found in the diplomatic, political, and economic realm.

Withdrawal from Angola will only shift the war to Southwest Africa where the South African Government has already halfway capitulated in the face of the diplomatic onslaught led by the U.S. State Department.

13238/06662

PAC Reportedly Attempting To Revive Terrorist Wing

34000643b Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English
1 Jun 88 p 5

[Article by Tony Stirling]

[Text] Police statistics on terrorism in South African indicate that the banned Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) has attempted to resuscitate its terrorist wing, which was virtually dormant for a decade.

Of the 532 terrorists and collaborators killed or captured by the security forces last year, 85 were PAC members or persons allied to the PAC, the annual police statistics show.

Notable during the year was the trial in Pretoria of seven Libyan-trained terrorists, five of whom were members of the PAC's military wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army, and the remaining two members of Qibla, a Moslim terrorist group allied to the PAC.

It was also confirmed that three terrorists shot dead in a shootout with the police in Johannesburg last August, and who had been involved in a serious [as published] of armed robberies, were PAC members.

The PAC was founded in 1959 after a split developed in the ranks of the ANC the previous year. It was extremely active in the early 1960's.

It was the PAC that organised the anti-pass campaign that led to the Sharpsville incident and which was behind the formation of the Poqo movement, several thousand of whose members were arrested in the first half of the sixties.

This clampdown on the PAC largely destroyed it as a terrorist organisation, and the years that followed were characterised by fragmentation and disunity.

From the start of the decade, however, the PAC achieved greater unity under new leadership, which has continued under its present chairman, Johnson Mamambo.

The PAC's first president, Robert Sobukwe, was imprisoned on Robben Island for terrorist activities, but was subsequently released under a restriction order.

The PAC's main original backer was Red China, and it was there that many of its terrorist cadres were trained.

Because of diminishing interest by the Red Chinese in sponsoring terrorism, the PAC, which has bases in Tanzania, turned to Libya, which today trains most of its people.

Probably because of its close links with Qibla, the Western Cape-based Moslem fundamentalist groups, its

cadres have also been known to receive training in Iran, Lebanon and Syria.

The fact that the Frontline States took a decision to recognise the ANC as the main "liberation" organisation led to a strain in relations with all these states, with the probable exception of Zimbabwe, where it maintains facilities.

The main ideological difference between the PAC and the ANC is its approach to revolution. The PAC supports the concept of a worker-led revolution as against the ANC's more broadly-based struggle, although both believe in the creation of a Socialist-Communist state.

It is recognised by the United Nations along with the ANC as a South African liberation movement and also enjoys recognition by the Organisation of African Unity.

Like the ANC, it draws financial support from the UN and bodies such as the World Council of Churches.

Ideologically, the PAC is closer to internal organisations under the umbrella of the Black consciousness and worker-orientated Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo) just as the ANC is allied to the United Democratic Front (UDF).

Both the UDF and Azapo and a number of allied organisations were recently placed under restrictions.

The range of weapons available to PAC terrorists appears more limited than those available to the ANC, who are supplied by Russia and its satellites.

The main weapons carried by PAC terrorists are Libyan supplied Scorpion machine pistols and hand-grenades, but more than 100 PAC terrorists received training in the use of a variety of Eastern Bloc weapons, including missiles, at Benghazi in Libya as early as 1976.

/9274

AWB Interference in Politics Displeases CP

34010060d Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans
27 Apr 88 p 12

[Text] The challenge from Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche, leader of the AWB, to Mr F.b.W. de Klerk to give up his seat and wage a by-election campaign against him has greatly escalated the existing tension between the CP and the AWB.

It appears that before the press conference in which Mr Terre'Blanche issued his challenge to Mr De Klerk, he received a telephone call from CP headquarters advising him not to get involved in party politics since this would be the CP's domain, in keeping with an "understanding" between the CP and the AWB.

According to Mr Andries Beyers, general secretary of the CP, the AWB has indicated to the CP that it is not interested in party politics. "The CP," he said to a Sunday newspaper, "wages election campaigns, and the CP is going to hold the AWB to its resolve not to move into that sphere. We expect the AWB to keep its word." Mr Beyers added that if Mr Terre'Blanche wants to take part in a by-election, he is free to become a member of the CP.

These developments indicate that although the CP does take advantage of the partisan support of the AWB during elections, the AWB does not desire recognition of this arrangement.

In addition, it also appears from remarks by Dr A. P. Treurnicht, leader of the CP, that in any by-election that should be called, the CP will not give any consideration whatsoever to the AWB, since it is the CP's right as official opposition to decide on the matter.

It is obvious that these factors will result in serious friction and conflict between the two groups. Mr Terre'Blanche's stated willingness to be a candidate in a possible by-election in Vereeniging indicates that as AWB leader, he wants to move into the sphere of party politics.

This is consistent with the comment by Mr Jannie Groenewald, the vice leader of the AWB, in a telephone conversation with Mr Danie van Zyl.

In that conversation, he said that the AWB would not get involved in party politics prior to the 1987 general election, but that it would do so afterwards. His position was that there would be a regrouping around the [white] national state idea and that the AWB would not operate under the banner of the CP.

A further development is that last week at an open meeting in Pretoria, Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg presented the CP's position on a white South Africa, the clear intention being to rebuff the AWB's Boer national state idea.

In CP circles, there is a great deal of talk about "the problems" that they are having with the AWB and Mr Terre'Blanche's meddling in party politics in the De Klerk-Vereeniging case, and despite the appeal by CP headquarters, relations have been seriously disturbed.

The fact that Mr Terre'Blanche has ignored the CP appeal is viewed as a sign that the AWB realizes that it is on a dead end street in its current relationship with the CP, and that its leaders have no other choice than to get out. This will jeopardize the whole relationship between the two groups.

The CP's position is that the AWB's organization is not strong enough to pull away from the CP.

12271

AWB Claims Credit for CP Elections in Randfontein

34010057b Pretoria *DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans*
20 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Sources for the CP and the AWB were found to hold diametrically opposed points of view about current happenings involving them, after the Randfontein by-elections.

The CP sources in this instance were the two Mulder brothers, who were recently elected to the House of Representatives. Toward the end of March in Cape Town they held a press conference at which both explained that they had never been members of the AWB. This awakens the impression that CP MPs are now creating occasions, deliberately and confidently, to disassociate themselves from the AWB.

Dr Corne Mulder, just elected MP for Randfontein, added an extra string to this statement when he said that he does not believe "that the AWB played any significant role in the Randfontein by-election."

The implication of this statement was thrown into sharp focus when Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche denied it shortly thereafter to *DIE BURGER*, with the statement that "The AWB worked flat out for the election in Randfontein and played a major role in the victory of the Conservative Party."

Those two statements show the absolutely contradictory points of view of the two groups over a very current matter that affects the nature of the CP-AWB relationship.

In political circles it is being said that it is unthinkable that a CP source would refer to the AWB in such an understated way, without the authorization of the CP leadership.

Insignificant Factor

It is inferred that the CP leadership wants to brush off the AWB as an insignificant factor and at the same time is trying to dissociate itself from the AWB.

The AWB, on the other hand, wants to emphasize its alliance with the CP and to let it be known that the CP cannot enjoy success without the contributions of the AWB. Indeed, at the above-mentioned conference in Cape Town, Mr Terre'Blanche said: "The fact of the matter is that a large number of Randfontein voters are members of the AWB." And: "I have given my support to the CP, as you know."

It will appear that as CP MPs, the Mulder brothers do not wish to give any recognition to the contributions of the AWB and thus take a conflicting position between this pronouncement and the speech of Mr Terre'Blanche.

'Nation State'

Before the by-election in Randfontein it became known that the AWB had approached Dr Corne Mulder to identify himself with the notion of a "nation state," but that Dr Mulder had refused. It was also revealed that the CP would not agree that the AWB had to hold a public meeting for the by-election in Randfontein. The AWB nevertheless did convene an open-air meeting that was then prohibited just in the nick of time, because the AWB had not been given clearance for an open-air meeting.

There are even claims that it was at the initiative of the CP that that meeting was prohibited, and then that it had to be relocated to a neighboring election district.

Those claims fall together with earlier assertions that the CP did not want to have a public meeting of the AWB for the by-election in the town of Schweizer-Reneke in that election district, either.

Then a day before the election, Mr Terre'Blanche held a public meeting just outside the border of the election district, obviously to demonstrate the involvement of the AWB.

It is clear from that course of events that the tension between the CP and the AWB is increasing. The AWB wants to snuggle up to the CP, but the CP is ostentatiously shoving it away. Some light is shed upon that ambivalence on the one hand by Dr Corne Mulder's statement that "There are certain differences between the policies of the AWB and those of the CP," and on the other by Mr Terre'Blanche's assertion that "The policies of the AWB and the CP are so close to one another that it would be illogical for the AWB to present itself as having the qualifications of a party in its own right."

This approach of Mr Terre'Blanche elicited the commentary from the CP side that there is no reason why the AWB cannot be absorbed into the CP, as is the expressed intention of the CP.

Mr Terre'Blanche's above-mentioned statement, however, also conflicts with the opinion of the Reformed Church that the AWB "is a political organization striving to become the ruling power in the country."

This raises the question: How can the AWB reconcile its desire to become the nation's government with its refusal to take part in elections? The inference is that the AWB wants to use its association with the CP to rise to a position of power, and that is just what the CP wants to prevent.

In AWB circles there is uncertainty concerning Mr Terre'Blanche's claim that the policies of the AWB and the CP "are so close to one another," while the CP, for example, categorically rejects the Boer nation-state concept of the AWB. That statement of Mr Terre'Blanche is

interpreted as a gesture of rapprochement with the CP in recognition of the fact that the AWB has considerably weakened its bargaining position with respect to the CP by its unconditional support of the CP in elections.

In future elections it is to be expected that the CP will give less and less recognition to the AWB and that the inability or unwillingness of the latter to propose candidates will deprive it of its political bargaining power with the CP altogether.

It is being claimed that Mr Terre'Blanche could not propose himself as a candidate in an election because of a suspended sentence imposed on him by the court; that sentence will soon expire, however.

What the CP fears is that Mr Terre'Blanche and other AWB leaders will join the CP and will propose themselves as CP candidates. This will create a virtually unmanageable situation for the CP. And that problem is only further complicated by Mr Terre'Blanche's open admission at a recent public meeting in Paarl that "the AWB is registered as a legal political party." The notion that as the leader of a registered party he could be the candidate for another party is unthinkable. That is one of the reasons why the CP leaders are single-mindedly working to increase the distance between them and the AWB, so that it will be more and more difficult for an AWB member to be elected as a CP representative.

Another reason for the growing negative attitude of the CP toward the AWB is that from within and without, the CP is under pressure to acquire "a more moderate image," and that the CP leaders are at least expected to renounce their AWB association as a condition for the support of "middle-of-the-road" voters.

The greater support the CP gets by watering down its policy still further, the weaker will the bargaining power of the AWB be; and the "more middle-of-the-road" the CP is in its leftward tendencies and its hustling for votes, the more the AWB will have to compromise its principles if it keeps on giving its support to the CP under the pretense that their policies are "so close to one another."

In both of these parties there is disagreement over mutual relationships. Some CP members want to have nothing to do with the AWB, while others support it. In the AWB there is a strong group that has very little confidence in Dr Treurnicht's leadership and that resists any closer association with the CP.

08117/06662

AWB Acquires Private Planes

34000643c Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 29 May 88 p 6

[Article by Jaap Boekkooi]

[Text] The Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) has set up its own "air force" of some half a dozen light planes—but not to spy on Nats from the sky, or water-bomb Cabinet Ministers at rallies.

Nor does this signal the return of the Red Baron—albeit in a Cessna or Piper rather than a Fokker triplane or Albatross.

Indeed, apart from staging noisy fly-pasts at AWB gatherings, the first one of which is scheduled for the June 25 anniversary of the movement, the real reason for the existence of the organisation's flying squad is much more prosaic: to offset South African Airways' notorious flight delays.

Recently the AWB had to hire a private jet to get leader Eugene TerreBlanche to a meeting in East London on time.

SAA's regular Boeing flight was so chronically delayed that the meeting would have had to be cancelled. Obviously without Mr TerreBlanche's booming baritone, AWB rallies aren't quite the same.

"It cost us a lot of money to hire the jet, but our supporters in East London were waiting for Eugene," said the movement's press officer, Mr P. W. Bingle, this week.

"Our air wing, to be known as the Goue Arende (Golden Eagles), is not some sort of AWB Luftwaffe but it will enable Mr TerreBlanche to get to meetings without delays, especially in country areas. There is a great potential for the air wing as many AWB supporters are also private pilots."

The AWB's main "force" at present consists of the Stormvalke (Storm Falcons), the Khaki-uniformed, armed guards present at all AWB meetings. Consequently, a Stormvalk who earns his wings immediately undergoes a rare ornithological transformation, from an earthbound Falcon to a soaring Golden Eagle.

/9274

Bureau of Information Launches News Service

34000643a Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 29 May 88 p 3

[Article by Sam Sole]

[Text] The Bureau for Information has launched its own news service, Nuusdiens, to feed newspapers the Government's point of view on current events.

Its chief objective is to bring to the press's attention "aspects of important stories which have not received adequate coverage," the bureau's director, Dave Steward, said.

"We're not competing with the press, but part of our job is to open channels of communication from the Government to people and to the media."

/9274

MILITARY

Sale of Cannon to Iran Confirmed

34000644a Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English
18 May 88 p 8

[Text] House of Assembly—Recent reports that the South African Armaments Corporation (Armcor) was selling its G5 artillery pieces to Iran had been confirmed as true by an independent and reliable source, Mr Roger Hulley (PFP Constantia) said yesterday.

He said in debate on the defence budget vote that reports were that Armcor has been selling the G5 to both Iran and Iraq, which were involved in a bitter war.

The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, had a duty to clarify the situation as a matter of urgency.

/9274

Details of Armcor's New Missile Appear in West

34000644c Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English
30 May 88 p 4

[Text] London—The first detailed information about Armcor's new Darter air-to-air missile to appear in the West has been published in the authoritative JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY.

It also publishes a photograph of the missile, attached to the wingtip of a SAAF aircraft.

The new Darter missile is a further development of the V3C missile, which is being used by the air force.

The report says: "The missile aiming helmet enables the pilot to select a particular target even when several targets are in the area and an alternative semi-automatic wide angle scan mode is said to reduce pilot workload during the approach to the target.

"Targets may be engaged within 15 degrees of the sun and rejection of infra-red sources such as the horizon and cloud formations provides a look-down, shoot-down ability against interfering backgrounds."

The missile carries a 16 kg pre-fragmented and RDX/Kraton-based warhead

"Darter has a solid propellant rocket motor which burns for two seconds and propels the missile to a maximum speed of 650 m/sec above the launch vehicle speed.

"Once launched, the infra-red telescope is capable of the high look angles, up to 55 degrees off axis, demanded of an all-aspect missile."

The pilot is given an "audio indication" once the missile has locked on to the target.

/9274

Armcor's New 'Smart' Weapon Used To Destroy Bridge in Angola

34010060a Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans
25 Apr 88 p 7

[Text] South Africa has developed a new weapon that has already been used in Angola with smashing success. The weapon—known in military circles as a precision-guided "smart" weapon—is self-guided or is guided towards its target by remote control.

This revelation was made in the latest edition of the authoritative international military magazine, JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY. Further details on the weapons are still classified.

According to the magazine, the weapon was used in action for the first time in December 1987 to destroy the bridge over the Cuito River in southern Angola. That bridge played a strategic role in the intense fighting between Angolan government forces and UNITA over the last few months.

Charges that the bridge was destroyed by two unmanned, electronically-controlled airplanes developed in Israel were sharply denied by the chairman of Armcor, Commandant Piet Marais, according to the article.

He said that the weapon was developed entirely in South Africa and is not an unmanned, electronically-controlled airplane, but rather a so-called "smart weapon."

The term "smart weapon" is used for weapons that either guide themselves to their targets or are guided towards a target by remote-control commands. A typical example of these so-called "smart weapons" is the American Paveway bomb, which is controlled by laser beams.

A spokesman for Armcor said yesterday that at this point Armcor has nothing to add to what Commandant Marais has already said.

—For the first time, Armcor has exhibited the Seeker at the FIDA international air show in Chile. This is an unmanned, remote-controlled small reconnaissance aircraft that can spot a target at a distance of up to 200 km using a built-in video camera.

12271

Armcor Unveils First .22 Caliber Hunting Rifle

34000644d Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English
18 May 88 p 3

[Text] Armcor last night unveiled South Africa's first locally manufactured .22 LR calibre rifle.

Musgrave Manufacturers, an Armscor subsidiary situated in Bloemfontein, displayed the new rifle, called the Ambidex Supreme, at an arms dealers' conference in Bloemfontein.

Armscor says the Ambidex is an exceptionally user-friendly weapon. The breech design makes it suited to both left- and right-hand users—the first such hunting rifle in South Africa.

"The walnut stock and generally excellent finish of the Ambidex should also do much to make it popular with hunters," Armscor said in a statement issued in Pretoria yesterday.

The Ambidex will be the first .22 calibre rifle to be manufactured locally and Armscor says it is expected to substantially reduce imports of this calibre of hunting rifle.

The official introduction of the Ambidex in Bloemfontein was undertaken by Mr Johan van Vuuren, Executive General Manager of Armscor. The guest speaker was Mr Ian Hogg, editor of JANE'S INFANTRY WEAPONS.

/9274

'One Army' for Nation Urged

34000644b Johannesburg ARMED FORCES in English
May 88 pp 18, 23, 24

[Article by Helmoed-Romer Heitman]

[Text] The South African Army consists of three distinct elements—

- A very small Permanent Force which is engaged chiefly in training, administering and commanding the overall force.
- A relatively small standing force comprising the national servicemen of two consecutive intakes, including elements of all corps and services.

The 'reservists' of the Citizen Force and Commandos, who form the bulk of the conventional and counter-insurgency forces.

The structure has thus far proved a reasonably effective way of meeting the requirements of our defence situation. It does, however, contain within it the seeds for friction and mutual suspicion between the various elements as a result of totally inadequate mutual understanding. The U.S. Army, which relies on its National Guard and Reservists to provide much of its combat strength also encountered this problem and went to considerable lengths to foster a "one Army" spirit. The fact that the two year period of national service and the later service in the Citizen Force or Commandos is compulsory for most of our men, cannot but aggravate this potential problem.

Should we ever find ourselves facing a conventional or semi-conventional assault, we will not be able to afford any such friction or mutual suspicion, or even just inadequate mutual understanding. We must, therefore, do everything possible to integrate the three elements of the Army more closely with each other.

It is also only through the closest possible integration of the main elements of the Army that we will be able to ensure the even spread and full understanding of our basic operational philosophy and doctrines throughout the Army—something which is essential if we are to be able to conduct the highly mobile, fluid warfare which we favour.

For the purposes of this system, 'regiment' could be taken as meaning:

- An existing Citizen Force unit.
- An existing Commando or, in areas where the individual commandos are very small, the relevant Commando Group.
- Certain of the standing units such as 1 SAI, 1 SSB and 14 Field Regiment. The emphasis here is on unit per se—a school, for instance, would not qualify as it has no combat or even field role.

It follows, therefore, that some recruits will be inducted by a standing unit. Members of the CF who have a standing unit as their parent regiment would serve their later training and operational tours of duty with that unit, be it on an operational deployment or as relief for a PF member of the training staff who is on leave. Given their limited need for CF personnel, these standing units would, however, probably only draw national servicemen from their immediate vicinity.

Induction

Every new recruit would be called up to a particular regiment regardless of whether he is intending to join the Permanent Force or will only render his basic national service and the required period of Citizen Force service. This regiment would remain his 'parent unit' throughout his military service, be it in the Permanent Force or the Citizen Force. Ideally, the individual would be given the opportunity to ask to be posted to a particular regiment of his choice. The regiments might well also wish to engage in active 'recruiting' among young men due to report for national service. Regiments might also be encouraged to arrange the affiliation of school cadet detachments, which would then 'feed' the particular regiment.

Each regiment would be required to prepare an annual estimate of its manpower needs two years hence and details of men who have asked to join it. These men would, if at all possible, be posted to the regiment. Additional national servicemen would then be allocated

from among those who have expressed no particular preference. The actual call-up would be to the particular regiment and could be administered by the regiment itself or by a higher headquarters on its behalf.

Each regiment due to receive recruits of a given intake would mobilise a small team to handle the reception, documentation, kit issue and initial introduction into military life. The new soldiers would also be given a brief introduction to their regiment, its history and quiffs. The new members of the regiment would also receive at least their regimental cap badges at this stage to underline their membership. Among the items covered in the 'introduction to military life', could be basic drill, details of uniforms, rank badges and forms of address, advice on keeping kit clean, etc. Essentially a form of 'survival guide to basic training'.

The induction programme would be handled by CF members of the regiment who are unable to attend the normal camp during that year for business or personal reasons. The commanding officer and the RSM should, however, be present for as much of this period as possible. The programme could take about a week, perhaps opening on a Sunday with a welcoming ceremony to which immediate family and close relations would also be welcome. Consideration could be given to ending it with the new soldier's first—and last for some time!—pass, giving him the second weekend to go home in his uniform with its regimental badges, et al for the first time.

The overall effect of this programme would be to have a body of recruits with at least the beginnings of cohesion, with the feeling of belonging to something within the Army, with a basic understanding of what the Army and their training is "all about", and with the basic tools with which to weather the initial shock of basic training. They will be much better equipped to cope with their first weeks in the Army than are most recruits today.

The new soldiers would then be transferred to the relevant training unit under the command of an officer of their regiment and a small party of NCOs.

Training

The regimental system should also receive its proper due in the allocation of recruits to training units. Thus each of the training battalions would act as the 'depot' for certain regiments, one company always training the recruits of a particular regiment or of two regiments in alternate years. A further extension of this approach might be for a particular training unit to 'feed,' for instance, all of the infantry battalions of a given brigade.

Leader group trainees and specialists such as mortarmen would be trained separately after the initial basic training but would, where practical, return to their regimental company for the remainder of their basic national service. Thus a recruit selected for junior leader training would return to his company as a corporal or second

lieutenant if at all possible, assisting in the training and command of the next year's intake. Mortarmen and others not normally found at company level would serve in the battalion's weapons platoons for the duration of their national service, while retaining their affiliation to their regimental company.

Some personnel could well be posted to their regiments for the second part of their national service, to fill certain administrative posts and posts such as assistant adjutant and training officer.

Permanent Force recruits would generally undergo longer and more specialised training and would thus not stay in their regimental company after the first few weeks.

At the end of the basic period of national service, members of each regiment would be posted to their CF regiment for the duration of their CF service. Men whose parent regiment is a standing unit would be posted to its CF wing.

Service

Citizen Force Personnel

Citizen Force personnel would serve for present system do, however, recommend themselves: [as published]

- Members who have completed their basic CF service of ten years should be retained by their regiment during the first year active reserve period, forming an 'in house' reserve component for each regiment.
- Members who have completed the five year active reserve period should be transferred to a security battalion of the same regiment, rather than to a Commando.

Retaining members in the regiment for their five years on the active reserve will result in a much more effective reserve component. These officers and men are already familiar with the regiment, its role, its members, its habits, its quiffs and, indeed its quirks! They will be easily absorbed back into it in time of need—rather than having to find their feet in a strange unit. With men on the active reserve being retained 'on the books' of their regiments, there will also be far less chance of personnel disappearing into an administrative limbo to be lost forever. Those whose business commitments do not allow them to remain active but who wish to keep up to date, could also easily be accommodated by this system. Some might also be employed in manning a regimental 'rear headquarters' to look after the interests of the regiment and its families while it is on active service or in camp.

Forming a security battalion within each regiment would serve to reinforce the benefits of the regimental system, ensuring that the regiment is truly the soldier's military home for the duration of his service. These security

battalions would take over the key point security and related tasks from the Commandos, thereby making efficient use of the regiment's older members, members whose business commitments make it impossible for them to continue going away on camps, and members who have been injured and are no longer fit for duty with the regiment's first line battalion or battalions. The administrative aspects of this transfer would also be greatly simplified as this would be a transfer within the regiment and not one between units or even corps. With respect to the latter point, there seems to be no reason why an armoured or artillery regiment should not also have a security battalion in the same way as an infantry regiment. The Commandos would similarly have first- and second-line elements, the former in a light-infantry role, the latter in the security role.

Permanent Force Personnel

Those joining the Permanent Force after induction through a CF regiment would naturally not see very much service in their parent regiment. They would, however, remain members of their regiment throughout their careers and would be rotated back to it for tours of duty during their service.

Permanent Force members of a regiment would ideally rotate in certain posts with Citizen Force members of the regiment. Thus a Citizen Force commanding officer could be succeeded by his Permanent Force second in command who would, in turn, be succeeded by a Citizen Force officer as second in command and then commanding officer. Similarly, each unit could have a small core of administrative and training staff drawn from Permanent Force and national service members in order to provide the day to day continuity and management within the unit which many today lack.

While a fixed system of rotation of certain posts would be ideal, this would probably not be practicable in the short to medium term as there will not always be suitable members of the particular regiment available. One way around this might be to link several regiments through one of the training units as a parent depot and to regard that whole as an entity for posting and rotation purposes. Some of the older regiments might find this prospect horrifying at first, but in time it could become yet another element of their long traditions. All appointments would have to take into account the specific needs of the regiment concerned. It would, for instance, not be useful to appoint in command of a CF regiment one of its PF members who has little regard for the CF concept and system.

Citizen Force Personnel—Detached Service

Officers and senior NCO's of CF units should fill most of the CP posts in the relevant formation headquarters. This would result in a more balanced officer with both command and staff experience and would reduce the inevitable friction between a formation headquarters

and its units. Ideally service at SO 3 level should precede company command, service as a company commander precede staff service as an SO 2, and service at SO 2 level precede an appointment as second in command of a battalion. Some CF officers could also serve tours of duty detached to other headquarters at various levels or even to other units on an exchange basis. Such service would support efforts to achieve a "one army" situation, without detracting from the advantages of the regimental system.

Citizen Force Personnel—Full-Time Service

The proposed system as discussed thus far makes provision for PF personnel to serve tours of duty with CF regiments, which will do much to ensure common cause, harmony and mutual understanding between the CF and PF elements of the Army and with the national service element as this has already been integrated into the CF prior to commencing service.

A very valuable extension of this system would be to allow—indeed to encourage—Citizen Force personnel to serve voluntary tours of active—i.e. fulltime—duty when suitable posts are available. While the numbers involved will be small—almost certainly smaller than the number of PF personnel on tours of duty with their CF regiments, this would provide an important element of balance, ensuring that the CF also have a sound understanding of the PF soldier in his environment and not only as a man serving a tour in their regiment.

Summing Up

The overall aim of the proposed system is to achieve a fundamental integration and interchangeability of Citizen Force and Permanent Force personnel. That this can be done despite their different training levels has been demonstrated by some of our own CF officers and even more clearly—because the system allows for it—in the Swiss and U.S. Armies. Once we have achieved this in reasonable measure, we will be well on the way towards being the "one army" which we should be and which, indeed, we must be if we are to meet the challenges coming our way.

/9274

ECONOMIC

Increased Disinvestment Under Dukakis Presidency Feared

34010063B Johannesburg *FINANSIES & TEGNIEK in Afrikaans* 13 May 88 p 9

[Article by Piet Marais: "Dellums Could Be Bad News for Stock"]

[Text] One aspect of the compulsory U.S. disinvestment that thus far has received relatively little attention, but which entails major, potentially detrimental consequences for South Africa, is the compulsory sale of South African stock.

Davis, Borkum Hare and Co., one of the biggest stockbroker firms in Johannesburg, points in a report to the harmful effects that the so-called Dellums legislation could have on the stock market.

If the Dellums bill is passed, this means that U.S. disinvestment of all stock in South African companies on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange will be enforced, which will affect most South African companies.

As an example of how this could affect South Africa, it is noted that around 12 percent of South African mining shares are in American hands and that the total market capitalization of mining stock is around 15 billion rands.

"Evidence in recent weeks indicates that American interests are beginning to become aware of the possibility of forced disinvestment from South Africa. American mutual funds report a sharp drop in South African investments by American investors.

"Even if the legislation does not pass Congress, the publicity surrounding the issue is making American investors cautious," says Davis, Borkum Hare.

According to the stockbroker firm, American business enterprises with interests in South Africa have begun a propaganda campaign against South African disinvestment, evidently in an attempt to counteract the present climate. However, this is not always a effective force in a democratically controlled Congress.

The legislation was passed last week after a four-hour debate by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. It still has a long way to go and must be passed by various other committees. From there, it must go to the House of Representatives.

In addition, the Senate can follow its own course with similar legislation, which is itself a long process.

If passage can be delayed until October, the bill could die, since all legislation that is in transit is dropped after each session of Congress.

Davis, Borkum Hare notes that it is still too early to panic, but that overall disinvestment by the United States has now been set in motion, and if it does not happen this year, it will come to pass later. Especially seen against the background of a possible Democratic president next year, the possibility of further disinvestment pressure in Congress must be taken into account.

It is universally accepted that South Africa will have a difficult time if the Democratic candidate, Mr Michael Dukakis, wins the race for the U.S. presidency. He has already revealed in public that he is in favor of sanctions.

It can also be expected that the United States will use its influence to ensure that South Africa's other trading partners take similar steps, even if this means threats of boycotts of their imports to the United States.

12271

Important Gas, Oil Deposit Found South of Mossel Bay

34010063c Johannesburg *FINANSIES & TEGNIEK* in Afrikaans 13 May 88 p 25

[Article by Curt von Keyserlingk: GENCOR Picks a Winner With First Strike: New Gas and Oil Discovery Could Mean Much Money for GENCOR"]

[Text] "We are very excited about the discovery. It is incredible that GENCOR picked a winner the first time," says an executive director of GENCOR, Mr Bernard Smith, about the discovery of oil and gas at the E-AD1 well in the ocean about 120 km south of Mossel Bay.

GENCOR owns 20 percent of the oil and gas reserves around the well. It was obtained in keeping with an agreement with SOECOR, the state corporation that is responsible for oil and gas exploration. SOECOR owns the remaining 80 percent.

According to the agreement, GENCOR can have up to the maximum 20 percent interest in any well drilled by SOECOR in a certain area off the southern Cape coast.

The area is not far from where Mossgas is planning to build its gas production platform.

In all the years that SOECOR has been looking for oil in the ocean, many wells have been drilled that have yielded little or no gas.

The E-AD1 well is the first one for which GENCOR has used its option as a partner. Thus far, it is the best strike that SOECOR has ever had.

Mr Smith is unwilling to say how much the group paid to participate in the project.

That figure will be of interest to people who think that GENCOR benefited exceptionally from the deal whereby it got the board of directors and a 30 percent share in the Mossgas project, amounting to 5.3 billion rands—for an initial payment of only 30 million rands (*FINANSIES & TEGNIEK*, 6 May 1988).

Mr Smith concedes that GENCOR made a good deal in the Mossgas project. He is apparently just as satisfied with the exploration agreement.

He is unwilling to say what GENCOR's royalties will be once the deposits around E-AD1 are exploited.

The government has yet to announce its policy on the payment of royalties for oil and gas deposits. It is unknown whether SOECOR will receive royalties at the same rate as a partner in the private sector, such as GENCOR.

Thus far, SOECOR has paid a total of 800 million rands for exploration, but has not assumed any financial risk because the money has been provided by the state treasury.

As a private-sector partner in SOECOR's exploration activities, GENCOR must put up its own money.

The chairman of SOECOR and the Central Energy Fund, Mr Danie Vorster, told FINANSIES & TEGNIEK last week that SOECOR's royalties for the reserves that are to be tapped in the Moss gas project have yet to be determined.

Mr Smith says that GENCOR will take out options on more wells that are to be drilled in its allotted area.

He says that the group will be primarily interested in wells in the immediate vicinity of E-AD1.

These drillings will show whether exploitation of the deposits is justified. A second drilling platform, the Omega, will soon be put into operation, joining the drilling platform currently used in the area, the Actinia.

The area is close enough to the Moss gas platform to make it possible to economize activities if the reserves are to be exploited, says Mr Smith.

E-AD1 yields approximately 7,000 barrels of oil and condensate and 58 million cubic feet of gas a day. It is 5.5 km from another well, E-AA1, which was drilled last year and yields 5,000 barrels of oil and 5 million cubic feet of gas a day.

12271

Japan Refusing Assistance to SA Companies for New Business Ties

34010063a Johannesburg FINANSIES & TEGNIEK in Afrikaans 6 May 88 p 26

[Article by Curt von Keyserlingk: "How Japan Intends To Break SA Ties"]

[Text] Officials at the Japanese consulate in South Africa will no longer respond to South African inquiries concerning imports from and exports to Japan, says the senior consul, Mr T. Kunikata.

The Japanese Foreign Trade Organization will also no longer lend support to South Africans who want to buy or sell in Japan. An official of that organization in

Johannesburg says that the local office recently received instructions from its main office to no longer respond to trade inquiries by South Africans.

"I do not know why we received these instructions. Perhaps it has something to do with politics. This is a very sensitive matter," he says.

The trade organization is largely financed by the Japanese government. Its main purpose is to promote trade between Japan and the world. The official who spoke with FINANSIES & TEGNIEK said that now the main activity of his office in Johannesburg is to gather information on the economies of South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland.

"The message of the announcement is disturbing," says an executive official of a South African company with strong Japanese ties. "It is an indication of Japan's effort to become South Africa's second biggest trading partner. They would like for the number one position that they currently occupy to be taken over by the FRG."

He said that sanctions against South Africa have become an emotional matter in Japan. Japan is still under pressure from the United States to restrict trade with South Africa. The motion picture "Cry Freedom" played a role in eliciting that emotion. Another factor is the publicity recently given to the status of Japanese in South Africa as "honorary whites," which is regarded as an insult by a race that for centuries has regarded itself as better than other races, he said.

"In practical terms, the refusal to respond to inquiries will have little effect on the companies that have been doing business with Japan for 30 years. It is the smaller companies trying to do business with Japan for the first time that will be affected."

His own company was informed last year that its supplies from Japan will be restricted. This step was taken by his Japanese supplier in reaction to a request by the government that companies should be "careful" in their transactions with South Africa.

12271

Economists Call Private Sector Salary Increases Unavoidable

34010061d Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 25 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] A confrontation between the government and the private sector concerning salary increases is on the horizon. However, an appeal was made yesterday to avoid a confrontation "at any price."

Experts agree that inflation must be whipped. There are sharp differences of opinion concerning how this should be done. President P. W. Botha's appeal to the private sector to limit salary increases has been met with strong criticism.

Mr Johann du Pisanie, chief economist for Senbank, said yesterday that even if the private sector wanted to heed the president's call, it would not be able to do so.

"Problems could emerge with trade unions. There is also competition between companies for skilled labor, of which there is already a shortage.

"Holding down salaries constitutes a negative personnel policy, which could result in lower productivity. The solution is to be found instead in limiting the number of employees."

Mr Du Pisanie said that he believes that the state president's call to address the problem of inflation is a "wrong" approach.

Dr Zac de Beer, an executive director of Anglo American, said that there are two ways to fight inflation.

"The money supply must be controlled and salaries must be kept in check. However, salary increases cannot be suppressed overnight, since companies are in a competitive market for acquiring and keeping competent personnel.

"Anglo American will do everything in its power to keep salary increases under control," Dr De Beer said. He supports the state president's call concerning fighting salary increases. "However, the state president was very unrealistic to expect that results will be rapidly discernible."

Through its chief executive officer, Mr Raymond Parsons, Assocom said that a confrontation between the government and the private sector must be avoided.

"No one will benefit from such a confrontation. Further talks must be held in order to address the problems," he said.

Mr Rudolf Gouws, an economist with the Randaksepsbank, said that the government should not be surprised or disappointed if the private sector does not react to the state president's appeal.

"The economy has been in an upswing since 1985. Employment has increased, and the demand for labor has risen. As is always the case in phases like this, the increase in wages and salaries is a reflection of what is going on in the economy.

"Businesses that heed such calls under the present circumstances will lose good employees and encounter strikes," Mr Gouws said.

Prof Gert de Wet, head of the Department of Economics at the University of Pretoria, said that he finds nothing wrong with salary increases as such.

However, they must be linked to increased productivity, and not to an increase in the cost of living.

He "supposes" that the private sector has done its part to fight inflation.

Mr Ian McRae, senior general manager of ESCOM, said that he sympathizes with the state president's appeal. However, limiting salary increases is not the only way to address the problem.

The country's money supply can also be limited. He believes that the state president has perhaps expected "too much too quickly" from the private sector. Results will probably be discernible only after another 2 or 3 years.

Prof Attie de Vries of the School of Management at the University of Stellenbosch said that he is against "wage control." On the other hand, salary increases can no longer be permitted at will.

A climate must be created in which expectations are kept in check. Privatization and deregulation must also be given greater attention.

12271

Foreign Tourists Up More Than Ten Percent in 1987

*34010061c Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
2 May 88 p 9*

[Text] Cape Town—A record 703,351 foreign tourists, consisting of 364,044 from the rest of Africa and 339,307 from overseas, visited South Africa in 1987. This is 9.2 percent more than the 644,502 visitors in 1986.

This information was obtained from the annual report of the South African Tourist Council (SATOUR) for 1987, which was presented to the media at a press conference in Cape Town.

The 339,307 overseas tourists who visited South Africa represent an increase of 14.4 percent compared to the 297,060 in 1986, and the income that they generated for the country amounted to nearly one billion rands.

Mr Spencer Thomas, executive director of SATOUR, said at the press conference that the increase of 14.4 percent in overseas visitors could climb to 15 percent in 1988, which will be the same as the 1984 record figure.

According to the annual report, three factors were primarily responsible for the growth in foreign tourism to South Africa: the favorable exchange rate for rands from other monetary units, the decrease in negative reports in

the foreign media and international marketing campaigns by SATOUR and South African Airlines in the tourism industry in foreign markets.

Mr Thomas said that a fourth factor—curiosity among foreigners to come have a look for themselves at what is going on in South Africa—could be added to this list.

Mr Thomas said that tourism was South Africa's fourth-largest export industry in 1987, after mining, agriculture and the export of manufactured goods.

He said that South Africa has enormous export potential in the area of tourism. If the country can solve its political problems, South Africa could become one of the largest exporters of tourism in the world.

In addition, the annual report states that there is a serious shortage of tourism facilities and services in and around non-white residential areas.

SATOUR, the Department of Development Planning and the Development Bank of Southern Africa are currently working on a National Physical Tourism development plan and development incentives.

Other facts from the annual report:

—With 237,709 visitors, Europe continues to be South Africa's largest source of tourists, with the United Kingdom (97,286) and the FRG (56,260) high on the list;

—With 153,910 tourists, Zimbabwe supplied the largest number of visitors from an African country, followed by Swaziland (61,558) and Botswana (56,564).

12271

National Employment Commission Foresees No Improvement Soon

*34010061b Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
3 May 88 p 2*

[Text] Cape Town—Although a better year is envisaged, there will not necessarily be a considerable improvement in the unemployment situation in the immediate future, writes Dr Hennie Reynders, chairman of the National Employment Commission in a foreword to the commission's annual report for 1987.

Dr Reynders says that the situation up to the year 2000 is not very rosy either, especially if unemployment in the TBVC countries is added to that of South Africa, which it in fact should be.

This underscores the structural side of rural unemployment and the urgent need for strong steps to be taken with respect to controlling population growth, especially among blacks. Coupled with this, measures must be applied to promote economic growth aimed at creating jobs.

In terms of labor relations, the growth in trade union memberships reflects further advances by the South African trade union movement, especially among black workers. This growth has been manifested since 1979-1980, and it is expected that it will continue, with growing influence exerted by mixed trade unions, Dr Reynders writes.

The commission's report also announces that strikes increased sharply last year. Thus, the number of strikes rose from 793 in 1986 to 1,148 in 1987, while the number of man-days that were lost through strikes increased from 1,309,000 in 1986 to 5,835,000 last year.

The sharp increase was largely attributable to the extensive miners strike. The average length of the strikes rose sharply to 9.9 days, compared to 3.1 the previous year. Wages and related issues were the reason for a considerable share of the strikes.

Most strikers were black, and 51 percent of the strikes took place in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area, 9.9 percent in the Durban-Pinetown-Pietermaritzburg area and 9 percent in the eastern Cape Province.

12271

Commentary Notes Need for Government Intervention in Economy

34010063d Johannesburg FINANSIES & TEGNIEK in Afrikaans 13 May 88 p 7

[FINANSIES & TEGNIEK editorial commentary: "Essential Management"]

[Text] After a period of modest but useful economic growth, the time has again come to slam on the brakes. Such measures were last needed nearly 4 years ago, and as a result some of the exponents of the latest measures have already forgotten that some of their arguments in such cases are already beginning to grow old.

In some quarters, there are complaints about a new tendency towards "intervention" by the government, and the emergence of complaints to this effect this week would come as no surprise. Moreover, the latest complaints about government intervention follow a misplaced hysteria about alleged positions favoring wage and price controls exercised by the state president. In the meantime, he has denied that he ever said anything to that effect.

The latest complaints about intervention by the authorities concern stricter hire-purchase measures and presumably also the focus on funds controlled by the Usury Act and the Credit Agreements Act. Whether there are also objections to stronger monetary control by the Reserve Bank was unclear as this was being written.

While it is reasonably conceded that the first-mentioned measures are a sign of intervention, it is a distortion to create the impression that a new approach is now being taken. Technical adjustments have been made, but in principle all the measures that are now in force have existed for many years.

Just as before, the debate should instead focus on the need for, if any, and the nature of control over the economy by the authorities and "intervention" in it, instead of being used as a punching bag because of political motivations. There should also be greater clarity about what is meant by "intervention."

Carried to its extreme, full "intervention" would clearly result in a Marxist system, while an approach of no interference would not even tolerate the existence of a central reserve bank. The pragmatic truth lies somewhere between these two extremes. If the need for financial authorities is accepted, this naturally implies some degree of management, interference or "intervention." Since no one of consequence has gone so far as to advocate the abolition of the Reserve Bank and the Treasury, the debate should thus not focus on the appropriateness of interference, regulation or management, but rather on the degree of it.

The De Kock Commission on monetary affairs supported this approach, describing broad monetary policy as: "All purposeful actions by the monetary authorities to influence the amount of money, the availability of credit and interest and foreign exchange rates, the goal being to influence monetary demand, income, production, prices and the balance of payments. In keeping with this definition, monetary policy explicitly includes 'intervention' by the Reserve Bank and the Treasury in the various financial markets...."

This position by the commission resulted in the institution of money supply targets "based on its (the Reserve Bank's) assessment of prevalent and expected economic conditions, including its view on the appropriate level and structure of interest and foreign exchange rates...."

Thus, anyone who denies that Dr Gerhard de Kock's commission endorses "intervention" in principle should reread the report.

It is simply not possible to leave everything up to the market at all times, because the market has the ability to destroy itself. South Africans who still have doubts should take another look at the story of the debt standstill, a dramatic case of "intervention."

Nevertheless, interference in the markets by the government should not be accorded status any higher than that of a necessary evil. Private initiative must go its own way as much as possible, while the latest encouraging attempts to privatize and deregulate must be continued.

Unfortunately, some of the most recent criticism is being expressed without consideration to the present process of privatization, which probably remains the most imaginative attempt to end the public sector's "intervention" in our markets.

One alternative to the latest package of measures would have been a sharp increase in interest rates, without accompanying hire-purchase measures. After the trauma of 1984 and shortly thereafter, when reliance on monetary measures was too great, this would be extremely undesirable. The broad punishment for each sector that higher interest rates would entail would at present simply be too much for the political and economic flesh and blood.

At the same time, it should be noted that an earlier and sharper increase in interest rates such as the Bank Rate would not have been inappropriate. In the future, such adjustments should not be postponed, regardless of the political drawbacks. Early treatment is always less painful than crisis treatment.

Together with the decision by the government to permit no general salary adjustments in the public sector (which was universally welcomed in the private sector), and thus to use the state budget in the usual way as an instrument of management ("interventionist" instrument), the latest package should greatly decrease the tendency to spend without jeopardizing the targeted annual growth of between two and three percent.

12271

Powertech's Accomplishments Praised
34010059a Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
22 Apr 88 p 12

[Article by Marlene Britz: "Powertech Is Greatest of Its Kind in South Africa"]

[Text] As usual, Powertech has lived up to its reputation once again during the financial year just ended. Yesterday that advanced technological group in the electricity industry released its strong showing for the financial year to the end of February.

With a turnover of nearly 600 million rands and apportioned gains that have increased by 50.1 percent to 18 million rands, Powertech is now South Africa's largest electrical group, thanks to the recent transaction with BBC Brown Boveri of Switzerland.

Because of an increase in the number of common shares issued by the group—from 119.2 million to 133.4 million—earnings did not increase so sharply per share as the apportioned profits. Nevertheless the increase of 34 percent in earnings per share, from 10.1c to 13.5c, is still an impressively strong performance.

On this issue, Powertech declared a dividend of 4.6c (3.8c) per share.

The great confidence with which the Powertech group has applied its strategy in the financial year just ended has led to an improvement in all its most important operating companies, with the result that these companies have registered higher profits, but more especially that they have greatly improved their efficiency.

Mr Peter Watt, CEO of the group, said yesterday that the prospects for the current fiscal year and the long term are especially encouraging.

In the previous financial year, Powertech said that it intended to consolidate its financial strength and in so doing to create supplementary sources for the development of new growth opportunities.

The results of the financial year just ended reflect without any doubt the success the group has had with that proposed objective. Although Powertech's sales volume of some 600 million rands in the financial year just ended is more or less the same as in the previous financial year, it increased its profits before taxes by 31 percent, to 41.1 million rands (31.3 million rands).

ASEA Electric (ASEA), a wholly owned subsidiary of Powertech, has made a remarkable improvement in profits in the period under review, despite an increase in its sales in real terms. That company has made good progress in the development of new products and in the substitution of imports.

Aberdare Cables Africa has once again come forward with solid gains that correspond to that firm's rationalization program. Willard Batteries also has an especially prosperous year behind it and has greatly improved its sales and profits.

Lascon Lighting Industries has also registered improved results, which can be attributed chiefly to the reorganization of that company and the application of strong measures to control costs.

Profits from our branch corporations in the Powertech family, including Whiteleys, Delta Controls, Electrical Protection Company and Litemaster, are most gratifying across the board.

Powertech's announcement earlier this month that it has entered into an agreement with BBC Brown Boveri of Switzerland, according to which ASEA is selling its industrial divisions to Brown Boveri of South Africa, in exchange for an interest of 50 percent in the corporation thus constituted, will in the future have a very favorable effect on Powertech.

The expectation is that Powertech's earnings in the current financial year will increase by the end of next February by some 1c per share, or 7 percent, thanks to the transaction with BBC. It will result in increasing the earnings from 13.5c to 14.5c per share.

8117/9604

SOCIAL

USSR To Abolish Visa Requirement for South Africans

34010061a Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
2 May 88 p 3

[Text] South African tourists will soon be welcome in Russia, the Association of South African Travel Agents (ASATA) has announced in a statement.

According to ASATA, an official of the Communist Party, Mr Lev' Zyakov, announced in Helsinki that Russia intends to do away with visas as a requirement for foreign visitors.

"Because both Russia and South Africa (as represented by ASATA) are members of the Universal Federation of Travel Agents Association (UFTAA), both countries are obligated to not obstruct visits by bona fide tourists," the statement said.

"If Russia is to allow South Africans into the country on the basis of approved tour packages—which is what will most likely happen—South Africa must do the same thing and allow Russians into South Africa on the basis of similarly approved tour packages. Both countries will have to follow the UFTAA guidelines."

However, ASATA warned tourists against the dangers of visits to Russia.

"We are advising that only hardy South Africans with a cultural sensibility visit Russia. Their backpacks and suitcases must be packed with their favorite things to eat, canned food and toiletry goods.

"South African tourists in Russia must be on the lookout for illegal money changers, black-market antiques and icons, and smugglers. The naive tourist is the ideal victim of blackmail and espionage traps.

"The material amenities, gourmet food, lodging, transportation and hospitality also leave much to be desired in Russia.

"Russian airline personnel is among the most insolent in the world. The hotels are uncomfortable and full of bugging devices, and because of the periodical agricultural shortages, the food is not good.

"The only people who provide services are the tour guides appointed by the government and the doorkeepers.

"Although such a vacation would entail hardships, Russia offers a great deal in the area of art, classical ballet, architectural beauty and antiques.

"It is possible to go and have a good time, but one certainly does not want to take a wrong step!

"It comes as no surprise that Russia is opening up to tourists, because the country urgently needs income from improved foreign exchange, and it knows that it can milk foreign tourists," the statement said.

12271

Tutu Rejects Atheistic Marxism, Communism in Letter to Botha

34010058c Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans
13 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] He is ready to debate with any theologian of President P. W. Botha's church and choose the proposal that the policy of apartheid "is not only unjust and oppressive, but unbiblical, unchristian, immoral, and evil."

Thus writes Dr Desmond Tutu, archbishop of Cape Town, in an eight-page letter delivered to the national president's office on the day before yesterday.

A spokesman for President Botha's office said that the national president would make no comment at this time.

Dr Tutu writes that he stands by all that he has already done in connection with the application of the Gospel to the oppression caused by apartheid.

"My theological foundation is derived from the Bible and from the teaching of the church," he says, referring to President Botha's challenge to him to state whether he is working for the Kingdom of God or the kingdom promised by the ANC.

"The Bible and the church have preceded both Marxism and the African National Congress by several centuries."

The mandate of the church leaders is provided by the Bible and the teaching of the church, and not by political groups, whether Marxist or anything else.

The Bible teaches that every human being is created in the image of God, while apartheid asserts that a person's skin color and his past can qualify him for privileges and political participation.

Unequal

The experience of America and the verdicts of its highest court were that it is impossible to implement the "separate but equal" policy. "The policy of apartheid does not try in the least to pretend that it incarnates the 'separate but equal' principle.

"It is completely unabashed to be referred to as separate and unequal. Just look at the glaringly unfair distribution of land between black and white, and all the unequal government expenditures for black and white education systems."

Dr Tutu says in the letter that although good laws make human society possible, Christian tradition teaches that Christians are not obliged to obey them when they are unjust.

"We accept wholeheartedly Paul's teaching in Romans 13 that we must subject ourselves to earthly rulers. Their authority, however, is not absolute.

"The ruler governs for the advantage of the governed. This does not come from any political manifesto, but from Holy Scripture. The implication is that a person must not subject you to a ruler who threatens your well-being."

Disaster

Dr Tutu says that he rejects atheistic Marxism just as he rejects apartheid.

He challenges President Botha to produce the photos in which, according to the allegations of the latter, Dr Tutu spoke under a flag bearing the hammer and sickle. "I denied the assertion; you did not retract your extraordinary allegations, but continued to claim that you have photos to prove them.

"Your apartheid policy is leading our beautiful country to disaster. But we have a passionate love for South Africa. Our black forefathers fought for it against the Nazis. A large number of Afrikaners, at that time pro-Nazi, refused to support the war effort, and many who wore the uniform of the Union [of South Africa] Defense Forces turned away from the services of the NG Church.

"I want to state this clearly: that I am a Christian, religious leader. By definition this certainly means that I reject communism and marxism as atheistic and materialistic. I work for the expansion of the Kingdom of God.

"For whose kingdom do you work with your apartheid policy? I pray for you, as I do daily for each one of your ministerial colleagues by name.

"In my interview I told you that I support the objectives of the ANC to bring into existence a nonracial, democratic South Africa; but that I do not support its methods. It is a statement that I have made in the Supreme Court in Pretoria and on other occasions. My viewpoints have never been a secret."

08117/06662

Boesak Denounces NGK Infighting

34010058d Cape Town *DIE BURGER in Afrikaans*
13 Apr 88 p 12

[Text] No one who believes in the biblical message of redemption can derive any joy from the deep-seated disunity that exists within a church. This holds true also in the case of the NG Mission Church, where the disunity of which many observers were already aware was admitted and affirmed in public this past week.

In a lead article in *DIE LIGDRAER*, the official journal of the Mission Church, mention is even made of "bloody" internal quarrels and the "piercing pain" of the church. In an open letter in the same publication, the moderator, Dr Allan Boesak, violently attacks the government and the NG Church, but also reproaches members of his own governing board who have not seen their way "to praying for my protection and that of my family at this time."

While in his letter Dr Boesak also admits the disunity within the Mission Church, he may quietly ask himself what contributions he himself has made to that disunity over the years. It is not just outsiders, but also a significant number of the members of his church and his fellow leaders who feel deeply disturbed about his activities and pronouncements over and above his purely church-related commitments.

In saying this it is not our intention to suggest that ministers of religion, in addition to their normal tasks, may not concern themselves with other matters that affect their flock. Neither does anyone deny a man such as Dr Boesak the right to fight against "apartheid" as he understands and experiences that that concept.

But what Dr Boesak claims in his open letter—namely: "What they (the government and the NG Church) ask of us is not that we must protest peacefully, but that we must not protest at all"—is simply not true.

No, what the perturbed members of Dr Boesak's church object to is the style of his actions. It must be painful for them to see their spiritual leader at the forefront of the theatrical street demonstrations dressed in his priestly garb.

Likewise it must hurt them to listen to the violent language he uses in his crusade against the government, language unworthy of a man in his position.

His calls for sanctions and boycotts and the petitions he makes in prayer for the fall of the government are excessive.

It is high time that Dr Boesak realizes that this sort of style is counterproductive. Rather than promoting the cause of those whom he regards as unfairly treated, he destroys it. And in the process he does his church an injustice.

08117/06662

NACTU Analyses Labor Bill; Foresees Tough Time Ahead

34000645b Johannesburg *SOWETAN in English*
20 May 88 pp 10-11

[Article by Themba Molefe]

[Text] The National Council of Trade Unions has painted a gloomy picture of the times ahead after carefully analysing the controversial Labour Relations Amendment Bill.

The analysis will serve as a guideline for its 24 affiliates.

The Bill, which has been widely criticised by labour experts and the labour movement in general, was tabled in Parliament on May 16 with "minor" changes being conceded after the original version was published in September 1987.

Nactu said the changes were so insignificant that it regarded the draft legislation the same as when it was first published.

Briefly, Nactu says the provisions of the Bill—if it becomes law—would:

- Severely reduce the powers of the industrial court;
- Restrict the scope of the unfair labour practice;
- Place further restrictions on the right to strike;
- Increase the sanctions on the trade unions whose members participate in illegal strikes;
- Restrict disputes that can be channelled through conciliation procedures provided for in the (existing) Labour Relations act; and
- Attack the practice of majoritarian unionism.

Undermine

The legal unit of Nactu, which drafted the guidelines, observes:

"The Bill in its present form represents a major change of direction in State policy on labour relations and will undermine many developments which have taken place since 1979."

The unit, in its analysis, selected major aspects of the Labour Relations Act which, if the Bill is passed, would "drastically" affect trade unionism.

Conciliation Boards: These are established by the Minister of Manpower in terms of existing legislation to settle a dispute between the trade union and the management concerned. It, however, does not involve third party intervention.

In terms of Section 35 of the LRA there is no time limit within which the application has to be lodged with the Department of Manpower. The dispute has to be referred within a "reasonable" period.

"There will be a limitation on the period during which the dispute must be referred. The application must be lodged within 21 days from the date on which the dispute has arisen," says Nactu.

The appointment of a conciliation board is at the discretion of the Minister in terms of the LRA.

Nactu says that in terms of the draft legislation the Minister will lose the discretion to appoint a board. Nactu says this is the only positive aspect of the bill as it will speed up resolution of conflicts.

Procedure

Industrial Councils: The present position is that there is no limitation on the period during which a dispute should be referred to an industrial council.

The Bill proposes that a dispute be referred within 21 days from the date on which it arose. This provision will have to be followed unless all parties to the dispute agree to a different procedure.

The introduction of a dispute procedure is very similar to the conciliation board procedure.

The restriction which prevented the industrial council from dealing with a dispute during the preceding 15 months has been relaxed.

The period has been reduced to 12 months. Nactu said this was also positive.

Although the clause presenting an industrial council from dealing with a dispute similar to the one which existed during the previous 15 months has been dropped, Nactu says restrictions to both the conciliation board and the industrial council processes have been proposed.

Industrial Courts: The major change to the status of the industrial court is the introduction of Section 17a—the Special Labour Court.

The Bill proposes to introduce a system of appeals from decisions of the industrial court which are to be heard by a special division of the Supreme Court. This would be called the special labour court.

Fairness

Nactu observes that the special labour court is to be given the power to make an order as to costs according to the requirement of the law.

"The creation of this court means that a common law court will now have to determine the issues of fairness and specialised issues relating to industrial relations.

"An appearance before a special labour court requires both an attorney and an advocate.

"Amendment to the power of the industrial court is that it can no longer make the same order as any court of law on a matter arising from the various Acts administered by the Department of Manpower," says Nactu.

"Section 17 (ii) (a)—of the existing legislation—which was used as a means of bringing urgent applications to interdict legal strikes, illegal lockouts and other breaches of industrial council agreements has been withdrawn."

Strike Action: The LRA presently provides that sympathy strikes aimed at putting pressure on an employer other than the employer of the workers on strike can be staged legally provided the conciliation procedures have been followed.

In terms of the Bill a sympathy strike will be a criminal offence if the employer or employee is not directly involved in the strike.

The LRA does not prohibit a strike over a dispute which is the same or virtually the same as a previous dispute which gave rise to a strike or a lockout.

Indemnity

"The Bill proposes that a strike will be illegal if the dispute that caused it is the same or virtually the same as the one that previously gave rise to a strike or a lockout in the last 12 months," says Nactu.

The federation says that the Bill also proposed to change the nature of the indemnity given to unions which participate in legal strikes.

"The Bill now not only retains but extends the criminal regulation of striking." This is a negative aspect of the Bill, says Nactu.

Unfair Dismissals and Unfair Labour Practices: At the moment there is no distinction between an unfair dismissal and unfair labour practice.

"The Bill introduces a distinction between the two by defining them separately and making them mutually exclusive concepts. An unfair dismissal cannot be an unfair labour practice in terms of the proposed legislation," says Nactu.

The federation also notes that selective reemployment of dismissed employees will not be unfair while in terms of existing legislation it is regarded as an unfair labour practice. This is very negative as far as Nactu is concerned.

Nactu says in conclusion: "On the whole the Bill is calculated to force some of the trade unions to close down at the end of the day because employers will now sue the union for damages based on its losses in the event of a work stoppage.

"The only positive aspect, however, is that the amendment of the industrial council and conciliation board system would ensure speedy settlement of disputes."

The federation said it was now charged with the responsibility of training its organisers to lodge disputes with the councils to comply with the 21-day regulation.

/9274

White Miners Demand Raise, Threaten To Strike
34010053b Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
20 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] The Council of Mining Trade Unions has indicated that an extended strike by white miners is possible if the Chamber of Mines does not soon comply with the workers' demand for a 17 percent raise.

The Council decided over the weekend to declare that there is a conflict after negotiations with the Chamber of Mines broke down, said Mr Tom Neethling, secretary of the Council.

The Council, which represents between 35,000 and 40,000 white trade union members in the mining industry, initially demanded a raise and better fringe benefits, which according to the Chamber would result in a raise of 40 percent of basic wages and salaries

According to Mr Neethling, this demand was unacceptable, and the Chamber offered a raise of eight percent.

The Council lowered its demand to 20 percent, but with the reservation that the Council itself could decide what part of that percentage would be allocated to salary increases.

After more negotiations, the Council decided on a raise of 17 percent.

The Chamber of Mines increased its offer by one percent.

According to Mr Neethling, the Council refuses to make more concessions. The Chamber of Mines is also unwilling to announce how much it is ready to offer if the Council does not "considerably lower" its demand.

For this reason, the Council requested that a conciliation board be set up.

Last year the wage dispute almost resulted in a strike by white workers. This year, the possibility of that is even greater. "The Council has never before been so united," Mr Neethling said.

12271

White Miners Prefer Strike Rather Than Share Facilities With Blacks

34010056c Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans
20 Apr 88 p 3

[Report: "Employers Coerce Workers on Facilities;" "Whites Will Strike, says Ungerer"]

[Text] The Mineworkers Union, which also represents an increasing number of white workers outside of the mining industry, stated point-blank that white workers would rather strike than share dining rooms, dressing rooms, toilets and living quarters with blacks.

That is the message which a delegation from that Union, composed of its president, Mr Cor de Jager, and its general secretary, Mr Peet Ungerer, delivered to the Department of Manpower Utilization recently.

The Union went to talk to him in connection with the irresponsible manner in which many employers treat their white workers. Separate facilities are abolished in an irresponsible manner. This defiant attitude of those employers who still have not renounced their loyalties to foreign countries, is in the process of seriously disturbing industrial peace in white ranks.

Employers use everything under the sun to threaten workers who do not vote in favor of eliminating separate facilities, Mr Ungerer told DIE AFRIKANER. Petitions of white workers in various factories and a great number of sworn statements were handed over to the minister.

In single quarters where there are limited numbers of whites, blacks are being shoved into white quarters without further ado. Whites who want to raise objections are threatened with dismissal. In some other locations white single quarters are adjoining those of blacks, and feelings run high.

The Union brought the explosive nature of the situation to the attention of the minister, and pointed out to him that in various enterprises there is already a serious danger of industrial action by annoyed whites.

The chaos which so-called bargaining units are threatening to cause in the labor world was also discussed with the minister. Employers divide their personnel into categories which usually include both whites and non-whites. Then they only want to discuss wages and work conditions of such a category with a union. Often that is a non-white union, which puts whites in the hands of black union organizers. In other cases they want to force the workers to belong to a multiracial union. There even were several cases in which employers tried to interfere with the constitution of the Mineworkers Union, which stipulates that that union is for whites only.

That blatant interference by employers in the affairs of workers cannot be allowed and can lead to serious disputes, Mr Ungerer stated.

8700

Political Advertising by Japanese Condemned
34010056b Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans
20 Apr 88 p 12

[Report: "Audacious Interference by Japanese Government: Result of Government's Failure To Act"]

[Text] The worst interference ever in South Africa's internal affairs is taking place right now. As many as 133 Japanese members of parliament, businessmen and other prominent figures, after being prompted by the Japanese Department of Foreign Affairs, placed a full-page advertisement in an English-language Sunday paper in which they blatantly interfere with South Africa's domestic affairs.

Apparently they are opposed to the government's policy of deducting Soweto's house rents from the blacks' wages, to the restrictions on 17 black organizations, and to those on individual blacks.

Someone knowledgeable about Japanese politics told DIE AFRIKANER that it is not at all a superficial phenomenon like the anti-South African screaming of other countries. It reflects a well-planned action which can be tied to the membership of the new Japanese Prime Minister, Noboru Takeshita, in the Trilateral Commission, a U.S.-Japanese organization controlled by the controversial American Council of Foreign Relations.

The Japanese attitude can be seen as a long-term plan which is aimed at expansion of the Japanese influence in black Africa. The policy has been pushed through against the bitter opposition of the Japanese Department of Foreign Trade, trusting that South Africa will not take counter measures which will harm Japan.

South Africa should have taken steps a long time ago already when the Japanese offended South Africa by prohibiting tourist traffic. The turn-the-other-cheek policy of the South African Government can only arouse the greatest contempt in the Japanese and it will take a long time before Japan can develop the slightest respect for South Africa.

In rightist political circles in Pretoria the debacle is seen as yet another proof of the current government's absolute inaptitude in the area of foreign relations.

8700

Mobil's Action Against Sanctions Hailed
34010058b Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans
14 Apr 88 p 12

[Text] South Africans will be happy to tell the American sanction zealots that the treatment they are getting more and more frequently in their own country serves them right. And it is coming chiefly from the business sector, which by this time must be really fed up with having to foot the bill for their doggedness in pursuing an unsuccessful and misguided policy.

In the most recent case, six oil companies among others refused to testify before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives as to what an oil boycott again South Africa entails. Only Mobil condescended to submit a written report, in which it thoroughly denounced the uselessness and counterproductivity of such an oil boycott.

The tactic in that case is the same one used in other punitive measures: Oil companies and their branches that do business in South Africa must be so heavily penalized that they are left with no other economic choice than to get out of the country.

The bitter experience of the American corporations that have already been driven out of the republic with great financial losses is that their departure does anything but cripple the national economy. Still less does it contribute to any political solution. Local as well as foreign enterprises are standing in line to fill the void that the Americans leave behind.

The only thing that the advocates of sanctions in the United States can show thus far for their economic sabotage efforts is a drastic decline in American influence in southern Africa. Just as Mobil correctly warns in its report: With an oil boycott, America is playing "its last card" and may expect to disappear from South Africa as a factor.

How long are American businessmen going to put up with having their freedom of choice trampled upon by politicians who try in this way to enhance their own reputation?

08117/06662

Private Sector's Response to Government Economic Plans Disappointing Says Botha
34010059b Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
22 Apr 88 p 14

[Text] The reaction of the private sector to the government's recent economic initiative has thus far been disappointing. Other mechanisms will have to be looked at, to help control inflation, said Mr P. W. Botha, the national president.

In the review of his budgetary appropriation in the House during the opening of parliament, he said that the government has clearly indicated its desire to bring expenditures within affordable limits, as well as its desire to make an important contribution to cutting inflation down to size.

In striving toward these two goals, and in the knowledge that both demand long-term strategies and courses of action, the state, among other matters, granted no across-the-board salary and wage increases to workers this year.

Because it is unconscionable that the nation's workers should be the only ones to make the sacrifices needed in limiting inflation for the advantage of everyone concerned, he has conducted talks on different occasions with members of the Economic Advisory Board and representatives from a number of those governing bodies concerned.

The aim of the talks and the letters was to ask the private sector for its support in the fight against inflation. There are specific requests for self-discipline in wage, salary and price increases.

President Botha said that since his opening speech, ample time has passed, and he must admit that the reaction of the private sector has thus far been disappointing.

"I have received quite a number of letters from businessmen who enthusiastically support the economic initiatives, but from the media I must deduce that the private sector in general is granting [salary] increases between 15 and 16 percent."

President Botha said that the public has also expressed its support in the fight against inflation. In most of their letters, individual citizens express serious doubt about the willingness of the private sector to cooperate in any real way.

Some clear and tangible consideration is being requested of the private sector in exchange for the sacrifice being made by government officials among others, who this year will receive no across-the-board salary increases.

It is becoming clearer and clearer that this consideration is not going to happen by dint of efforts at persuasion or voluntary teamwork. Hence other mechanisms will have to be looked at to help control inflation, he said.

8117/9604

CP To Use Local Elections for Return to Full Apartheid
34010053a Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
20 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] The upcoming municipal elections that are being fought on a political basis across the nation will be used to sabotage the government's policy of regional services councils, predicted Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg, assistant leader of the CP, yesterday in Pretoria.

The elections are "manna from heaven" for the CP, says Dr Hartzenberg, who kicked off the CP's municipal election campaign yesterday evening at Pretoria City Hall.

The CP candidates running in Pretoria have already been designated, and they filled the front chairs in the hall.

The CP is simply going to "take over" the government on the local administrative level this year in the municipal elections, Dr Hartzenberg boasted.

Indirectly, a vote for the local authorities is also a vote for the regional services councils, which is the foundation of the NP policy of decentralization.

"We are fighting this election in order to take over enough city councils so that we can destroy and halt this policy and the foundation of NP policy."

He said that if the CP succeeds in taking control over the Pretoria City Council, the party will also be able to take control over the regional services council for the area.

"We only have to reject the budget so that they are unable to do anything, and then their policy is useless."

He explained how the regional services council of the Rustenburg/Groot Marico/Zeerust area will be managed by the CP and how that position will be used to veto resolutions on the budget.

Dr Hartzenberg also outlined what the country would look like under a CP administration. The CP will "pick up" the fragments of the apartheid policy, which "have been proven effective, and earnestly apply them as they have never before been applied."

An entire strategy has already been worked out, and if they assume power work will truly be begun on implementing the policy of separate nations. Fiscal planning of that policy constitutes the foundation of this.

Each ministry will be charged with the task of examining and promoting every aspect of its domain with respect to the policy of separate nations, and all proposed legislation will first be examined in terms of whether it complies with that policy.

Trade unions will not be permitted, all state subsidies for black transportation and housing will be abolished and land ownership in white South Africa will be the right of whites only.

According to Dr Hartzenberg, the era of "pasella wena" will pass. The non-whites have "enough land already" in urban and rural areas, within which they can develop "their own identity."

The Indians can have the area between Stanger, Durban and Pietermaritzburg, and the rest of the country aside from the homeland areas and the independent states will be known as white South Africa. Land for the consolidation of homelands will have to be bought or traded.

12271

English Universities Described as ANC 'Breeding Grounds'

34010057a Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans
30 Mar 88 p 3

[Text] The ANC and its kindred organizations are placing ever greater emphasis on the recruitment of white members and the acquisition of white support.

When Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, addressed the annual congress of the "Black Sash" in Johannesburg last week, he clearly stated the reasons for those tactics. Whites have more "elbow-room," he said. They must use this elbow-room to bring about the changes that they, along with the black revolutionary organizations, desire. If they do not do this, they will be responsible for the deaths of blacks who perish as a result of the state of emergency.

The case of Heinrich Grosskopf is just one of many. Another is that of Jennifer Schreiner, daughter of Dr Denys Schreiner, the vice-chancellor of the University of Natal. She appeared in court recently, charged with high treason. Already in 1979 at the age of 23, she had become a member of the ANC and had gone to Botswana for training in terrorism and propaganda. She was responsible for the explosion of one bomb in an army barracks and another at the D. F. Malan Airport, and finally she was taken into custody in September of last year. Explosives and AK-47s were found in her possession.

Academics

Both Schreiner and Grosskopf come from families of liberal-minded academics. For them, blacks are an oppressed people, and in the alien, leftist atmosphere of an English-speaking campus they were easy prey for revolutionary workers.

The English-speaking universities are the greatest ANC breeding grounds in the country, says a security expert with whom DIE AFRIKANER spoke.

Control

The recent quarrel between the NP leader in Transvaal, Mr F. W. de Klerk, and the leftist white-administered university was just an exercise in shadow-boxing. For political reasons the NP government is unable to exercise effective control over the universities.

The council of the University of Cape Town spoke out again last week to protest the government's actions against the 17 leftist organizations and the leader figures connected with them. The president of the student council of the University of Witwatersrand, Rosemary Hunter, was also taken into custody recently under the emergency regulations. A serious charge has been made against her, explains a spokesman for the South African Police.

Earlier cases of whites who have worked for the ANC, such as Marion Sparg, Arnold Geyer, Barbara Hogan, and Jansie Lourens, have been designated as "random" occurrences, explainable by reason of personal situations.

Tactic

This is not so, says DIE AFRIKANER's source. The use of whites and even of white organizations within the ANC and the UDF federation has become a well-thought-out black revolutionary tactic.

Just how willing some whites are to perform the auxiliary services has appeared from the reactions of the "Black Sash" delegations to Frank Chikane's conference.

Black Sash

Mrs May Burton, the president of that organization of radical-left white women, numbering 1,900 members, said that the "Black Sash" would see to it that the voices of the organizations now being restricted, would be heard further. The "Black Sash" must work closely with the newly founded women's organization of the UDF, the Federation of South African Women, to make the best use of their own elbow-room as whites in that domain.

08117/06662

Electronic Fence To Enclose Pretoria University
34010060b Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
27 Apr 88 p 20

[News report by Andriette Stoffberg: "Strict Security Measures on Divided Campus: Thousand of PU Students Are 'Behind Bars'"]

[Text] Pretoria University students are being locked up.

A fence measuring around 2.5 m in height and 2.2 km in length is currently being erected around the main campus after the part of campus near the "Skip," the university's Administration Building, was put behind bars last year.

Ultimately, the entire campus—including the dormitories—will be fenced in. The Prinshof area (the medical campus) near H. F. Verwoerd Hospital is already enclosed, a spokesman for PU said.

The fences are being erected for security reasons, in order to better control entry.

The main campus occupies the area between University Road to the west, Roper Street to the east, Burnett Street to the north and Lynnwood Road to the south.

Because Roper Street is a public road, the main and east campuses cannot be enclosed together. Discussion of closing that street because it divides the campus in two has circulated for years within the student body as well as among university officials. However, this has encountered strong public opposition.

According to the spokesman, the closing of Roper Street is a sensitive issue. Talks with the city council are under way, but at this stage the main and east campuses will not be fenced in together.

Because only the main campus is being fenced in now, he said that it is impossible to speculate on what sort of additional expenditure it will mean for the university if the east campus must be enclosed on the Roper Street side as well.

The city council has approved the fences as being aesthetically acceptable.

It remains uncertain how much the project in its entirety will cost, because it will be handled in phases as money is available. Thus far, around 112,000 rands have been budgeted.

Electronic security equipment will be used to prevent unauthorized entry. A couple of gates for cars and numerous pedestrian entrances will be installed in the fence. According to the spokesman, all the entry gates will be manned. Students will have to show their student ID cards, and special cards will be issued to visitors.

In addition, additional security measures have already been taken in numerous buildings on campus, whereby people without the required ID card are not admitted.

12271

Churches Urged Not To Use Freedom of Religion To Promote Revolution

34010059c Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans
16 Apr 88 p 6

[Text] For any democratic government that has to deal with a revolutionary attack, a dilemma arises as to how far it can go in combatting it.

As a democratic authority, it wishes to preserve freedom. But the question of what it must do if the revolutionaries misuse that freedom against it makes government leaders throughout the West rack their brains for answers.

Solid

That problem is well illustrated this week by a conjuncture of coincidences that has highlighted a poignant irony in the South African situation.

On the one hand there is the commemoration of the tercentenary of the arrival of the Huguenots in South Africa, an arrival that is attributable to the fact that those persecuted refugees could be assured of freedom of religion and of conscience in the Cape.

That freedom has become such a solid beacon in the history of South Africa that it continues to exist unchanged even in the current emergency situation, which does affect certain democratic freedoms to a greater or less extent.

Vehicle

On the other hand, our attention this week is also directed to a dangerous development—the attempts of the ANC to harness religion and the church to its revolutionary wagon. ABD Lafras Moolman, director of information for the NG Church's Cape synods, wrote in DIE KERKBODE that the ANC has itself now inaugurated a religion department to use the church as a vehicle for the revolution.

Without disparaging the task of the church as the conscience of the government, the impression that some church leaders are awakening in their public discourses is that they are making use of their freedom as preachers of the Gospel to promote the revolution, whether knowingly or unknowingly.

Perhaps something like this was to be expected. If the revolutionaries are held down in certain areas, they make use of other freedoms that still remain open to them.

Unique Role

A further irony is that it comes precisely at a time when the tide is turning elsewhere in the world, when church leaders are beginning to entertain doubts about whether the church can really fulfil its unique role if it becomes nothing more than one political pressure group out of many.

The book written by Dutch theologian Prof Harry Kuitert in 1985, entitled "All Is Politics, but Politics Is Not All," caused quite a sensation, for example, and started many people thinking again about whether the church should indeed play such an activist role. Hopefully that kind of watershed will still find a place in South Africa, where some people's ideas are always a few years behind the thinking of Europe.

Of course the church can be misused in another way, as happened in Nazi Germany and is still the case now in the Soviet Union. In those countries the church lost its independence and was employed to promote an anti-Christian state ideology.

Misuse

For a democratic state, the question remains how it must react to the misuse of religious freedom.

One can accept the fact that a government sometimes must involuntarily make use of undemocratic means in the political arena. Also elsewhere in the democratic world—in countries such as West Germany, Great Britain and Canada—that principle is already more or less in practice.

But if the preservation of democracy is the point of departure, those undemocratic measures must not be so violent that they become in themselves a threat to democracy.

And how unnatural when it is a question of religion!

Challenged

One must still remember that by placing too many restrictions on democratic freedom, the government plays into the hand of the revolutionaries. It has been a conspicuous fact of all revolutionary wars since 1945 that the rebels have challenged the governments with the express goal of making it harder to encourage oppression and polarization.

In that way, the political center, made up of reasonable people, is excluded and the way opened up for a takeover by the extremists.

Thus what lies ahead is a challenge that can only be resolved permanently by the discovery of a political solution that takes the wind out of the sails of the revolutionaries.

Flourishing

Freedom of belief over the entire spectrum flourishes today in this country as in few others. May this never change.

This means that church leaders and members have an all the heavier responsibility to see to it that they are not misused to benefit the Marxist revolution. Otherwise the revolutionaries will ultimately reject them also as mere handy idiots who have served their purpose.

8117/9604

Problems Faced by Durban's Rapid Expansion Examined

Deluge of Disease

34000650 Durban *THE DAILY NEWS* in English
23 May 88 p 7

[Article by Laura Nelson: "The Deluge of Disease"]

[Text] Durban is a city under siege.

It is said to be the second fastest growing city in the world, trailing behind only Mexico City. It is undoubtedly the fastest growing city in the southern hemisphere.

Nowhere else in South Africa is a city and her citizens being confronted with the awesome challenge of coming to terms with one of the most rapid urbanisation onslaughts witnessed.

How the authorities cope with this enormous task is of paramount importance, not only to Durban and Natal, but to all of South Africa. Urbanisation is happening everywhere, but the front line is here.

It affects each and every one of us. To believe that millions of people living in shacks and in poor hygiene right on our doorsteps will not in some way eventually spill over into the First World cocoon of the city's suburbs is simply unrealistic.

This Week, in "Crisis City" *THE DAILY NEWS* will focus attention on key aspects of the problem.

Today, medical reporter Laura Nelson looks at the pervasive problems of disease and health care.

Every year more than 1,000 black babies die at King Edward VIII Hospital in Durban, hundreds die of measles in rural areas and still tens of thousands more suffer from malnutrition.

These are just some of the nightmarish problems doctors and nurses are battling with as they attempt to alleviate misery and suffering in Natal and KwaZulu.

They clearly demonstrate that beneath the veneer of First World society lie the day-to-day health horrors of the Third World.

Infant mortality rate: Infant mortality rates in Natal and KwaZulu are alarmingly high and remain a chronic Third World health problem.

The two major causes of death are malnutrition and gastro-enteritis.

"Each is the product of the other as malnutrition predisposes to gastro-enteritis, and repeated or prolonged diarrhoea causes malnutrition," said Dr Joan Naidoo, a senior lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics at the University of Natal Medical School.

Mortality

She said nearly 8,000 babies were admitted to King Edward VIII Hospital a year and the mortality rate was an alarmingly high 17 percent.

Of these, 55 percent were malnourished.

Dr Naidoo said nearly 2,600 babies were admitted annually with gastro-enteritis and 15 percent of these died.

Both malnutrition and gastro-enteritis were linked to poor living conditions.

"So, the answer is to raise the standard of living of these people and educate them."

This was why she had initiated the GOBI Fund in Natal.

"This stands for four simple, but vital health care measures which can reduce infant mortality," she said.

They are:

Growth monitoring: "This can be done by regularly using a simple growth chart.

"One can see immediately if a child is not growing normally. Then one has to find out if this is because he is not getting enough food or if he has a disease."

Oral rehydration: "In all Third World countries, there is a high incidence of gastro-enteritis and babies become dehydrated," Dr Naidoo said.

However, a mother could easily rehydrate her baby and save its life.

"All she has to do is feed it with a mixture of a litre of water, half a teaspoon of salt and eight teaspoons of sugar the moment the baby starts getting diarrhoea," she said.

"This will prevent dehydration from an early stage and a mother should continue breastfeeding during this stage."

Breastfeeding: "A baby who is breastfed stands a better chance of survival because it reduces the risk [of] gastro-enteritis and other infections. It also prevents malnutrition," Dr Naidoo said.

Immunisation: If a baby has been fully immunised against infectious diseases, it obviously stands a better chance of survival.

Disease causes widespread misery and death in Third World homes where poor socio-economic factors and a lack of education are major factors.

Dr Murray Short, senior medical officer for the KwaZulu Health Department, said measles are still a killer of young children.

"Typhoid is another. This is essentially a disease of school-going children and it peaks in Natal and KwaZulu in 11 and 12 year olds."

He said this was probably due to the extended contact that these youngsters had through schools, where it was aggravated by poor conditions.

"Children are packed into schools where there is a lack of hygiene and poor sanitation, hence the spread of disease."

Dr Short said bilharzia was also prevalent in adolescents, but did not have the high morbidity rate of typhoid.

In adults, stress diseases such as tuberculosis and blood pressure had become more prevalent, particularly in urban areas:

"This is probably caused by the conflict of adapting from one culture to another," he said.

"The majority of adults who have TB acquire the infection at a young age. They manage to keep it under control until it is triggered off—often by stress."

Dr Short said there was also an increasing tendency towards high blood pressure and diabetes in urban blacks.

"Cancer of the cervix is another particular problem, but obviously this is not necessarily a Third World problem except in as far as the diagnosis and treatment of it may be difficult to obtain."

All doctors interviewed agreed that AIDS would become a major problem—as it has in the rest of Africa—and that sex education would play a vital role in preventing it from spreading like wildfire.

A key issue—and a major headache—is family planning.

In KwaZulu, where it is hampered by tradition and culture, it is known as "family spacing."

Dr Short said although more children were surviving, the birth rate had not yet dropped.

"We are presently in the expanding phase because of the intervention of sophisticated health care techniques, but this will eventually peak and then taper off.

"This is a recognised phenomena in the rest of the world," he said.

"Education and persuasion are the only answers."

Dr Short said the pill was the most common form of contraception in KwaZulu, followed by Depo-Provera (injections).

The latter had become increasingly popular because they could be obtained without a husband knowing.

"Sterilisation is not popular among many, but it is also gaining ground."

Doctors pointed out that as socio-economic conditions improved, the birth rate dropped. This was because as a person's standard of living improved, his aspirations rose.

A mother's health—and her baby's chance of survival—also obviously improves with family planning.

According to a recent world fertility survey, if no mother gave birth within two years of a previous birth, this alone would reduce infant mortality by at least 15 percent.

A World Bank investigation estimates this would reduce infant mortality by up to 25 percent in most Third World countries.

There is a chronic shortage of black doctors and, according to statistics, the doctor-patient ratio is one doctor for more than 27,000 patients.

In the white community the ratio is one doctor for fewer than 500 patients.

Doctors do, however, point out that this is not entirely a true reflection because there are a number of white doctors serving black patients at provincial hospitals.

Nevertheless, they agree that things are far from satisfactory—and the situation is aggravated by a maldistribution of doctors in Natal and KwaZulu.

"Urban areas have become saturated with them—to the detriment of the rural areas," said Professor Derek Arbuckle, professor of community health at the University of Natal Medical School.

This occurred partially because urban areas were more densely populated and also because they offered a better lifestyle.

"This includes a better professional lifestyle. In urban areas, doctors have access to libraries and other diagnostic services such as laboratories and X-rays," he said.

"This has led to a relative depletion of doctors in rural areas for the inverse reasons."

Professor Arbuckle said it was important to stress that working in a rural area offered a number of important challenges for a doctor.

"He deals with diseases that are ineffective or preventable, and education plays a big role." Also, because primary health care was so cost-effective, a doctor could save a life for only a few rands.

Answers

So what are the answers to these enormous Third World health problems in Natal and KwaZulu?

Professor Arbuckle summed it up: "More of our health budget must be directed to preventive medicine and primary health care services in general.

"At present, too many people are presenting themselves at specialist hospitals when they don't need high-tech medicine at all."

He said the majority of them could be treated at primary health care facilities where a doctor's expertise was not even required.

For example, nurses could immunise children, teach their mothers how to rehydrate their babies, encourage them to breastfeed, and so on.

"This would free the doctor from inappropriate use so that he could devote himself more fully to patients who really need his services."

Three New Hospitals Planned in Metropolitan Area

Hospital authorities are giving urgent attention to Durban's rapid expansion and three new hospitals are on the cards for the metropolitan area.

Mr Val Volker, MEC in charge of Natal's hospitals, said officials had recognised the need to meet the growing demand for more hospitals and clinics.

"We have requested that immediate attention be given to this matter," he said.

Representations had been made for a hospital to be built north of Durban in the KwaMashu/Inanda area.

"At present, both the southern and western parts of the city are catered for with hospitals, but the north is not," Mr Volker said.

Representations had been made in conjunction with the KwaZulu Department of Health and Welfare and the hospital had not yet been approved.

"We have included plans for community health clinics to render immediate services, while the hospital itself will deal with patients who have to be admitted."

Another hospital was also on the cards in Phoenix.

"The House of Delegates is planning to build a hospital there to supplement R. K. Khan Hospital which is overburdened. This is definitely in the pipeline."

A new teaching hospital is also to be built at Cato Manor. It will have 1,025 beds.

"When complete it will take over the academic function of King Edward," Mr Volker said.

The new complex would be linked to the University of Natal.

Finally, a new outpatients department was being built at Durban's overburdened King Edward VIII Hospital at a cost of R9 million.

"This will have the latest up-to-date facilities for between 500 and 600 patients a day. If the pressure increases, it will be able to cater to more people."

Shantytowns Proliferate

34000650 Durban *THE DAILY NEWS in English*
24 May 88 p 13

[Article in the "Crisis City!" column: "The Shanty-Town Scourge"]

[Text] Housing is the most critical social problem facing South Africa and Durban—as the fastest growing city in the southern hemisphere—is at the forefront of the crisis.

In the greater Durban area, already more than 1-1/2 million people live in shacks—almost half the total population—and that number is growing daily.

And Durban City Council Chairman of Health and Housing, Mrs Margaret Winter has already warned Durban ratepayers that if they think the city can live in isolation in the face of this massive problem, they are dangerously mistaken.

"It's the greatest challenge facing us—not only provision of housing, but the whole challenge of urbanisation. Whatever happens in the surrounding townships, whether it's health or social problems, will eventually bounce off Durban."

Although urbanisation is a problem facing all developing nations, in South Africa it has some subtle differences.

Apart from the Group Areas Act which is found nowhere else in the world, many shack-dwellers are living in hovels because there is nowhere else for them to go.

A trip in any shanty town will show a host of TV aerials, and most ramshackle homesteads have at least one breadwinner.

"We are not talking about hoboes in the bush—we are talking about people who have come to town as the land can no longer support them," said Mrs Winter.

To get an idea of the size of the problem, the National Building Research Institute has released figures showing that the housing shortage is 832,000 homes for blacks, 52,000 for coloureds, and 44,000 for Indians. Conversely, in white areas there is a surplus of 37,000 units.

By 2,000, at least 4 million new homes will have to be built above the backlog. Already, in the townships housing Durban's black labour force, the average home has 23 people living in two rooms.

But cold statistics don't tell the other side of the story: crowded conditions, family fights, lack of privacy, spread of infectious diseases, accidents, alcoholism, drug abuse and sexual problems. This is something enlightened employers have already recognised. They are improving the lot of their workers through company housing schemes—and thus reaping the rewards of greater productivity.

Obviously housing is not a problem confined to blacks. Another vulnerable target is the white pensioner living on small state payouts and basically at the mercy of the landlord.

It's a grim picture. And one cannot claim that it's only happening "out there." In fact some say improving the lot of the urban poor is a form of social insurgence for the city. Social problems are a breeding ground for the politics of anarchy, as the thousands of angry township youths with rocks in their hands will attest. Few would disagree with city councillor Peter Mansfield who said recently: "These homeless kids on the streets today will become the mafia gangsters of tomorrow, unless something is done."

The problem first arose with the Government's refusal to recognise early urbanisation more than three decades ago. Blacks were considered temporary sojourners in white cities, and basically the only accommodation provided for them was single-sex dormitories. By the time the Government realised that the inexorable tide of urbanisation could not be turned, it was too late.

The authorities are now somewhat belatedly recognising that shanty towns are an unfortunate aspect of developing nations, and First World standards can no longer be applied dogmatically.

"Basically we are going with whatever we have got," says Mr Roger Whitely, chairman of the Development Services Board. "In the informal settlements under our control, we are ensuring that shacks are solidly built while at the same time bending over backwards to provide proper houses."

However, Natal University environmental scientists Dr Jeff McCarthy said the main cause of the problem was that apart from not enough land being made available, authorities were not flexible enough in applying building requirements. If basic materials were made available and if the "creative energies" of the urban poor were used in providing their own houses, there would be a big improvement in the situation.

Mrs Winter said Durban was sitting on a time bomb if the city refused to acknowledge its awesome responsibilities.

"We cannot live in isolation. Can anyone, for example, seriously believe that two million people right on our doorstep without water or sewage facilities will not affect our health facilities? These people work in our city, they are very much part of our daily lives."

However, she said she had no "clear direction" how to solve the problem.

"The red tape involved is horrific. While there has been tremendous enthusiasm from the private sector, they are so bogged down by bureaucracy in just building a house for a black homeowner that in many cases they simply don't get off the ground. This obviously is where a start has to be made. Eradicate red tape, define large chunks of land for black housing, and re-assess building standards.

"Our role in the council is to aggressively draw the attention of Pretoria and the KwaZulu Government, as well as the local authorities and Province to this massive problem."

"If we ignore this—we do so at our peril."

Cheap Housing the Answer, Say Experts

Cheap Third World housing using natural resources and recycled products is the only feasible solution to South Africa's housing shortage.

This is the opinion of experts on the thorny issue. Natal University researchers believe a simple additive to mud could be an answer.

"If we can stabilise mud and make it water resistance, we can solve the massive housing problem in this country," said Mr Rodney Harber, chairman of the university's Appropriate Housing Technology Unit (Unahtu) and a senior lecturer in the Department of Agriculture.

"We are looking at the bottom end of the housing delivery system—people who cannot get aid, are largely jobless and come to town to escape the collapse of agriculture. Because of this, they have to resort to simple mud houses."

Unfortunately, these could not withstand heavy rain—as shown by the recent floods.

"The enemy of mud is water: driving rain and rising damp. You can either protect the outside of a building or stabilise it with water-repellant additives." Structures using petroleum by-products to stabilise the mud were common in Mexico.

"We live in a throw-away society where the First World's waste is the Third World's building product. Many people are so poor they can only afford natural resources and recycled products. There could be a quarter of a million people in Durban living in houses made of beer cartons."

"Another useful compromise is the Zanzella system where timber lathing is replaced with wire mesh. This is filled with rubble, bottles, beer cartons or rocks, supported with poles and plastered."

Thousands of others lived in houses made of plywood from the motor industry.

Another form was "sakhuise", made of plastic packets filled with a mixture of sand and a little cement, stacked on top of each other. They were found mainly in the Cape, but were being tested by Unahtu on the Mozambique border.

Mr Harber said these forms of alternative housing cost a fraction of conventional units.

A basic wattle and daub structure cost between R35 and R60 a square metre. "This is the cheapest 'solid' structure you can get."

"Basically, we need to have a more holistic approach. They want a house to look like a traditional western image of a home. Unfortunately, a lot of housing innovations don't measure up to this."

Explosion of School-Age Children

34000650 Durban THE DAILY NEWS in English
26 May 88 p 34

[Article by Sue Segar in the "Crisis City!" column: "The Shackland Scholars"]

[Text] Research by the Inkatha Intitute last year showed about 3,605,600 people living in the Durban Functional Region—an area from Umkomaas in the South to Cato Ridge in the west and Tongaat on the North Coast.

The DFR incorporates large areas of KwaZulu and all its people have a functional economic reliance on Durban. They also contribute a great deal—including manpower and half the buying power—to Durban, according to Mr Dave Jeffrey, Inkatha economist.

Of the DFR population, 387,341 are white, 69,793 coloured, 590,307 Indian and 2,558,171 African.

Of the Africans, 826,609 are from townships and 1,731,562 are from "shack" areas. There are virtually no schools in these squatter regions. If the population continues to grow at the present rate, the DFR population will be 6.2 million by the year 2,000. The squatter population will rise to 3,950,000.

Most of the population is under 20. The key to prosperity is education, reports Sue Segar, education reporter.

The next 12 years will see a continuation of the human avalanche into Greater Durban.

And by the year 2,000 more than 1.5-million children aged 5-18—the offspring from the mushrooming shack settlements around Durban—could be leading meaningless lives because of a lack of schooling.

This figure excludes the thousands of children living in the formal townships, who will go without an education—unless a near-miracle occurs in educational facilities.

In spite of the fact that provincial and municipal authorities have recognised the shack settlements as a permanent feature, no schooling has been provided for children in those areas.

The result is twofold:

- On the one hand, an unknown number of school-age youths effectively "roaming" the areas with nothing constructive to do;
- On the other hand, thousands of squatter children are entering the formal township areas—often exploiting kinship with township people—and using the schools there.

"There are virtually no schools in the shack areas and the very few schools that have been set up on a voluntary basis do not serve the educational needs of the communities," said Mr Siyanda Nkehli, a researcher for the Inkatha Institute.

"There is a great need for the development of an educational infrastructure and of course an even greater need for schools in the areas.

"Community member in some shack areas have tried to establish informal schools. But most of these are only primary schools, creches or child-care centres, where the staff are often inadequately trained."

Durban anthropologist Mr Mark Marais said the frustration experienced by aimless youths caused violence and crime.

"Lack of education leads to unemployment, which leads to social crisis, among them violence. In some areas, increased violence is causing young children to accept violence as a way of life."

Mr Duncan Hindle, secretary of the Durban branch of the National Education Union of South Africa, said the violence in Pietermaritzburg townships had caused a "push-over" of hundreds of youths into the Durban Functional region.

This had caused an increase in Durban's problems, and they had brought a "political flavour" with them, Mr Hindle said.

He said general dissatisfaction and frustration among youths often showed itself in political insurrections—even although it was usually not informed political action.

"As far as schooling in the township goes, the facilities are not even adequate to provide for the children of residents. The influx of pupils from the informal settlements makes matters far worse," Mr Nkehli said.

Mr M. Ngobo, of the KwaZulu Education Department said: "Thousands of school-age children in the KwaZulu areas of the DFR are going without an education."

PFP education spokesman Mr Roger Burrows said the average teacher/pupil ratio in KwaZulu schools was 1:50. In schools run by the Department of Education and Training, it was 1:33.

"There is an average of 55 pupils per classroom—and an average repetition rate of 12 percent in KwaZulu schools," he said.

"This means that even within the existing formal school systems, conditions are grim. There are too many pupils, the teachers are under-qualified and there is not enough money to pay the teachers adequate salaries. A vast amount of money is needed to upgrade school buildings.

"Added to this is the fact that the school systems have to take incredibly large numbers, not only from within the areas they cover, but from people coming in from outside. An added problem is the broken performances of pupils and the staggeringly high failure rates, particularly in the class one and matriculation years."

"The repetition rate among class one pupils is very high, because many children arriving at school are simply not school-ready, because of their backgrounds. It is here that the problem starts.

"One example of the disparity between white and black education is that in 1984, in the Umbumbulu circuit, there were 50,000 pupils and 1,000 teachers. The white Natal Education Department had 125,000 pupils and 7,200 teachers.

"The per capita spending in South Africa as a whole in black terms is R500 for each black pupil, against R2,500 for every white child.

"There is an average of one teacher for every 21 pupils in white education—and a surplus of nearly 26,612 places in white Natal schools.

"The paradox is that the white school-going population is shrinking while the black school-going population is exploding in numbers. The Government has a scheme to equalise spending, but this year's budget has certainly not met even their aim of a 4.1 percent real increase in spending for blacks," said Mr Burrows.

Not Attending

He said Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Education and Development Aid, has recently said about 1,050,000 black children between seven and 16 had not attended and were not attending school.

"The Minister did not give a Natal figure, but a large percentage of those children would be from rural and peri-urban areas—of which there are many around Natal.

"In terms of coloured education, the Durban population is small and by and large their schooling is satisfactory," said Mr Burrows.

"Several scenarios could be advanced for what might happen in education. The optimistic view is this: the Government grasps the nettle of both the staggering building backlog and the need to equalise spending on

every child. The billions of rands gained by selling off Iscor, Eskom and Sats are used in a crash programme to build enough schools to house every child wanting to go to school.

"The vast gap in spending is bridged by moving to an education voucher system of equal value for the same school level. These vouchers would allow any child to receive education in any school of choice.

"Millions of rands are thus available for spending on education in the shack areas.

"Every teacher-training institution is used to train teachers of all colours for teaching in schools wherever work is available. Education leads the communities to a prosperous, peaceful future.

"The pessimistic scenario is so easy. Little or nothing is done. Little money is made available. Young people continue to transfer their envies to attacks on wealthier areas. The social fabric has to be supported more and more by guns. Even the present short-changed schools in the shack areas collapse under pressure of numbers, which begin to overwhelm the inner city. The future of Durban is bleak."

Drug, Liquor, Child Abuse

34000650 Durban *THE DAILY NEWS* in English
27 May 88 p 13

[Article by Farook Khan in the "Crisis City!" column: "Place of Violence"]

[Text] Depression City—that's what you could call Greater Durban, a metropolis caught in a web of growing social problems ranging from child sexual abuse to mob violence.

The Department of Statistics, in a recent report on convictions for a host of crimes, pinpoints the Durban-Pinetown-Inanda complex as a violent place.

In June 1987 the population of the area was just over 1.1 million. In the year leading up to then, crimes for which convictions were secured were 16,570 for Greater Durban; for the rest of South Africa, 380,094.

Of 69 convictions countrywide for child abuse, five were from the Durban area, while 47 of the 2,565 murders in South Africa took place here.

There were 2,903 convictions for drug and drink abuse out of a total of 36,770.

Experts said that for an area with just 4.4 percent of the population, the figures were high—and rising.

Sociologists listed mental health among the major social problems, with an increase in family crimes—child abuse, parent bashing, wife beating and family killings.

A Durban psychiatrist said the price of modern living was high and often forced both husband and wife to work.

"It's fine as long as the man earns more than his partner. But if it is the other way round, there can be serious problems which threaten and even destroy family ties.

"I would say that one of our biggest problems is depression which has scarred and damaged family life to such an extent, that the family unit is in danger of being wiped out."

"According to the Family and Marriage Association of South Africa, there were 1,305 divorces in Durban in 1978.

Last year the figure jumped to 2,255 and during the first three months of 1988, 602 divorces were recorded.

Another major problem is child abuse—children subject to sexual or violent attacks.

Experts say sexual abuse of children has been going on for many years and is only now being publicised; as more incidents are brought to the attention of social workers, a major network is needed to help curb it.

Mrs Jane Tarr of the Women's Bureau said that while children had always been warned to look out for strangers, it was people around them who had been wrecking havoc.

She said 67 percent of child sexual abuse was perpetrated by family members; another 31 percent by friends and neighbours and just two percent by strangers.

"Our main spearhead is to make the public aware of how to handle the situation. Next priority is not only to treat the victim, but the perpetrators as well."

Government departments, social welfare agencies and hospitals are working on various programmes to combat the child abuse problem, but those who spoke to THE DAILY NEWS said it would take a very long time to overcome this hurdle which had scarred and ruined any young lives.

Drug addiction is high in Greater Durban. A social worker said dagga remained the number one problem, then mandrax.

The deputy director of Sanca, Mr Jan ver der Merwe, said it seemed the awareness programme run by agencies, local and national government was taking effect in the fight.

He said drug abuse was worst among people aged 16-24, but that there was now a levelling off in the numbers of takers.

But he believed there would be an increase as the population grew, and services always lagged behind.

While younger people took dagga and mandrax, the older people, especially women, used over-the-counter preparations or prescription drugs.

But Mr van der Merwe said drinking was the big problem: the youngest person known who was treated for alcoholism was only 14. Research showed that among white men 32 in every 1,000 had a drinking problem, compared with seven women, coloured men 53, coloured women eight, Indian men seven, and Indian women, a negligible number.

Among black men 98 out of every 1,000 had a drinking problem, and 25 black women.

"These figures represent people who are drinking in excess and harming their health. It would be fair to say that about 68 percent of the population uses alcohol in some way or the other," said Mr van der Merwe.

Through the influence of television, Mr van der Merwe said, a whole generation of people had been taught to drink, that it was the right thing to do, especially when they were depressed.

Gangs have always been part of life in Greater Durban, but with unemployment rife and technikons and universities turning away young people, the mob population is growing over the years.

Many residential areas in Greater Durban have been troubled by some gang or the other, especially the giant townships like Chatsworth, Phoenix and the shacklands that are havens for shebeens, fah-fee rings, bucket shops, gambling schools and brothels.

Then there are illegal racketeers who employ gangs to collect debts, run protection or extortion rackets or act as "muscle" for gang fights.

Prostitution and sexually transmitted diseases are on the increase—especially VD and AIDS.

/9274

Short-Lived Youth Group's Goals Described
34000645a Johannesburg SOWETAN in English
27 May 88 pp 10-11

[Article by Mike Tissong]

[Text] The Azanian Youth Organisation was to celebrate its first anniversary today.

Instead, members will silently remember it as one of the most short-lived, intensely active overt political groupings in the country.

Azayo, which was inaugurated as the youth wing of the Black Consciousness Movement on May 27 last year, was effectively banned by the Government on February 24—less than nine months after its launch in Durban.

Azayo was one of 17 extra-parliamentary organisations virtually closed down by the Government which imposed severe restrictions on their activities.

Surprised

The ban means that the 17 organisations may not engage in any activities of resistance without Government approval.

However, the organisations may carry out administrative functions such as maintaining an office and keeping records.

In its short existence, Azayo had a momentum that surprised even its mother body, the Azanian's People's Organisation (Azapo).

Azayo was formed after an Azapo resolution to mobilise the youth into an organisation which would cater specifically for the needs of the youth.

Nationalism

The momentum started before the launch when organisers travelled throughout the country with proposals for a young organisation within the Black Consciousness fold which would stress a socialist alternative for the country.

Azayo was to be different from the Azanian National Youth Unity (Azanyu) which stressed African nationalism as its political philosophy.

Azayo was also meant to be different to the Azanian Student Movement (Azasm) which catered for school and university students within the Black Consciousness fold. Azayo catered for the youth in general.

It was also to be different from the then-proposed South African Youth Congress (Sayco) which supported the Freedom Charter before Sayco was also banned.

Links

The State took notice of Azayo's rapid growth and, at one stage, the entire interim committee was detained in terms of the state of emergency.

Others involved in Azayo took over the organisation when, at the time of the launch, interim president, Mr Sam Seema and his team were behind bars.

Mr Thabo Mafihla was elected president and he and several members of the new executive have been detained many times since then.

On release they said they were questioned about the growth of Azayo and that the police were investigating links between Azayo and the armed wing of the exiled Black Consciousness Movement of Azania (BCMA), the Azanian National Liberation Army (Azanla).

Azapo's deputy president, Mr Lybon Mabasa, was also detained at Protea police station in Soweto where he was asked about his brother's role in Azanla.

Azayo members also said they were questioned about the six campaigns, Azayo was involved in.

Death

Of the campaigns decided at the inaugural congress was the "anti-KwaNdebele independence campaign."

Members of the KwaNdebele branch were involved in community action against the independence proposals.

One of the projects Azayo sabotaged was the music and soccer festival in the KwaNdebele bantustan. The festival was going to be used by officials to sell independence proposals to the masses.

Azayo members asked Jomo Sono of Jomo Dosmos and Pine Chabeli of Moroka Swallows not to field their teams and asked the musicians involved not to take part. They pulled out.

Azayo members were also involved in commemorating the 10th anniversary of Steve Biko's death in detention in September.

Biko

Seema, who was at that time released from prison, died in a car accident while distributing Biko stickers in Soweto on the evening of September 11 last year.

The SOWETAN reported that about 3,000 people attended his funeral in Marapyane in the Western Transvaal.

Azayo members from the Maritzburg townships tried to resolve the issue of violence in November, but the problem was too big for the fledgling organisation.

Two Azayo members were killed in November and the whereabouts of a third man, Mr Mlungisi Mkhize, are still unknown today.

Azayo also supported National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa strikers and had meetings with people in Noordgesicht who were being recruited to "scab" during the strike. The "scab" labour stopped.

Increase

In Atteridgeville, the community council organised a music festival at which people were going to be asked to support a tariff increase of \$5,90 for an electrification project in the township.

Azayo members approached musicians, including Mara Louw, not to participate. The show did not take place.

In line with the cultural boycott, members also protested against a proposed show by American Joy Simpson in Mamelodi. Police turned up in large numbers for the show and made up most of the 150 people present.

The hint that Azayo was going to add to the political momentum in this country came at the launch when mini-buses of delegates from branches around the country converged on the YMCA in Durban with about 1,000 representatives.

Security policemen, including some from Protea, parked outside the venue.

Four buses with youths from Maritzburg were turned back because Azayo did not have money to pay for accommodation and food for them at the two-day meeting.

Issues

The socialist direction was set as Azayo committed itself to "propagate the ideology of socialism among the youth" and fight to uphold the principles of anti-imperialism and anti-capitalism.

Azayo also adopted the socialist Azanian Manifesto as its political programme. The manifesto identifies racism and capitalism as the problematic issues in South African politics and proposes a system based on socialist principles.

After being elected president Mr Mafihla said: "We see socialism as the only solution to end racial and capitalist exploitation.

"The youth in a 'Socialist Workers Republic of Azania' will enjoy the benefits of that society including the right to education and the right to work."

Mr Mafihla's committee includes Jabulani Makhatini, Kenny Mampondo, Brutus Manana, Ellen Mokhele, Tsepo Sebusi, Mbulelo Ketye and Bongile Singatha.

During its legal existence, Azayo's office at Lekton House, Johannesburg, was a hive of activity.

Fears

Today the office is much quieter.

In Azayo's place, a number of other youth organisations have mushroomed including the Wattville Youth Movement, the Lenyenye Youth Movement and the Seshego Youth Movement.

The banning of the organisation threw many members into disarray, but there are fears that others have been hardened by the experience of more repression from the Botha Government and have gone into exile.

The next 12 months will probably show the Government that repression strengthens the resolve of those in oppresses everyday.

/9274

Need Voiced To Prepare Children for Multiracial Society

34010058a Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans
13 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] Pretoria—Preparing children in South Africa for the demands of the multiracial and multicultural reality that awaits them cannot be left to chance.

These were the words spoken here yesterday by Dr P. H. Bredenkamp, director of education in the Transvaal, in opening the annual symposium of the Transvaal Education Department (TOD).

Dr Bredenkamp said that in children's formative years they must be trained to participate responsibly in the new style of negotiation and dialog that will form the basis for South Africa's multiracial relationships.

He welcomed the new policy of integrated school sports and urged educators not to exercise party politics at school levels.

It is essential that schools—in addition to emphasizing education itself—nurture an awareness and an appreciation for the common elements that bridge the gap between the cultures of South Africa.

Therefore, "We are grateful that our minister (Mr Piet Clase, minister of education and culture, House of Representatives) in his announcement of the policy concerning school sports and school cultural activities, is making it possible for school communities—where they choose—to join forces more easily and with greater spontaneity. Understanding is fostered on both sides through athletic competition."

In South Africa, where various peoples have to live and work together in harmony, the education program, after fostering education itself, must also give consideration to the liaison between groups and must sustain and promote active efforts at group interaction, he said.

The involvement of education in the community and in cultural activities also raises the question of the educator who is simultaneously involved in politics.

"Although it is clear that education may not be politicized and that there is no room for politicking and sectionalism in the classroom, the teacher still has a responsibility to help the child form its own opinion about things."

No party political preferences may be foisted on the pupils by the teacher. "It would be unethical and contrary to professional conduct to use children to obtain party political goals."

Personal party political convictions may never be propagated, but educators must speak responsibly with their students about controversial issues.

08117/06662

Preservation of Afrikaans Language After Apartheid Foreseen

34010053d Cape Town *DIE BURGER in Afrikaans*
6 Apr 88 p 7

[Article by Freek Swart: "New Appreciation for Afrikaans"]

[Text] As a contributor to a new book—"What Comes After Apartheid? Young Afrikaners Speak Their Minds"—Dr Leon de Stadler, senior lecturer in the Department of Afrikaans and Dutch at the University of Stellenbosch, writes that movement in the direction of a South Africa without apartheid is rife with implications for the Afrikaans language. For the article below, Freek Swart took direct excerpts from Dr De Stadler's interesting chapter of this book.

Up to now, Afrikaans has been protected by a special state structure in which the language's official status has been protected, writes Dr De Stadler. Moreover, the language is (artificially?) protected by the fact that Afrikaners have formed the core group of the government for the last 40 years.

"Once there is movement away from the current system sometime in the future, white Afrikaners will increasingly move into a subordinate position, a position in which they will not have the same power that they do now. Just as has been the case in some homelands (such as Transkei in 1976), Afrikaans could lose its status as an official language.

"For that reason, it is of the utmost importance that the future of Afrikaans be ensured in another way, in my opinion primarily by taking note of the facts in connection with the Afrikaans language community and by making genuine attempts to discern the various groups within this language community and to bring them closer

together. In order to do this, the traditional Afrikaner institutions will have to undertake a probing reexamination of their own character, which to many people is exclusive and inflexible.

"By replacing their inviolate exclusiveness with greater openness with respect to Afrikaans language and culture, they will not only promote Afrikaans, but also see to it that Afrikaans has a unifying role to play in a new South Africa.

"The education authorities can also play a role in this regard by making the Afrikaans youth aware of the position of Afrikaans within a multilingual South Africa and of the composition of the language community, and by instilling in them a healthy appreciation, not only for the language as such, but also for the role that the language should play in a changing South Africa."

Statistics

Against this background, Dr De Stadler looks at the composition of the language community, and suggests that according to 1980 statistics Afrikaans was the home language or mother language of 2,581,080 whites, 2,251,860 coloreds, 77,320 blacks and 15,500 Indians.

Whites thus constitute 52 percent of the language community, leaving 48 percent for the other groups. Another important statistical perspective is the increase in the language community among coloreds: In 1970 it was 2.24 million whites (compared to the current 2.58) and 1.9 million coloreds (compared to the current 2.25). If census figures from the last couple of decades are considered, it is immediately obvious that the colored part of the Afrikaans language community is rapidly in the process of overtaking the white part. If a projection is carried out on the basis of the existing statistics, the coloreds will soon constitute the largest part of the language community.

Circumstance

Dr De Stadler notes here that the number of colored Afrikaans-speakers referred to above is 78 percent of the entire colored population, while white Afrikaans-speakers constitute only 55 percent of the total white population.

And also: According to the 1980 census, 48 percent of the total population speaks Afrikaans (not necessarily as a mother language), of which eight million are non-white and four million are white.

In short, within the total Afrikaans language community there are more non-white speakers of Afrikaans than white ones. This is a circumstance that must have a significant effect on the attitudes about Afrikaans that exist within this community.

According to Dr De Stadler, the position and role of Afrikaans must be reassessed against the background of the multilingual nature of South Africa. The most important languages in South Africa, indicated on the basis of home language status in percentages of the entire population, compare as follows: Zulu, 25 percent; Afrikaans, 21 percent; English, 13 percent; Xhosa, 12 percent; North Sotho, 10 percent; South Sotho, 8 percent; and Tswana, 6 percent.

Two aspects of Afrikaans' position here are particularly striking: First, Afrikaans, together with Zulu, is one of the two strongest languages in South Africa; secondly, the major difference between Afrikaans and English as main languages.

Although Afrikaans is better positioned as a home language than English, its higher home language status must be regarded against the following background: While 48 percent of the total population of South Africa can speak Afrikaans (this means approximately 12 million out of a total population of 25 million) and 44 percent can speak English, only 37 percent can read and write Afrikaans, compared to 41 percent for English.

Dr De Stadler points out that there are various indications that Afrikaans is maintaining its position with respect to English in many domains, despite the position of English as a world language. For example, of the 5,019 books published in 1983 in South Africa, 2,172 were in Afrikaans and 1,951 were in English.

Furthermore, he believes that Afrikaans is in the process of shedding its label as the "oppressors' language" and is solidly holding its own in multilingual contexts.

And although the apartheid system, especially since 1948, has been associated with Afrikaans by way of Afrikaners and has motivated a negative attitude towards that language—plus the strong negative emotions stirred up towards Afrikaans after 1976—it seems that in the recent past a sharp turnaround has taken place in the attitude of the non-white part of the Afrikaans language community.

According to Dr De Stadler, there are clear signs that the colored and Indian community in particular has (rightly) appropriated the language. The largest Afrikaans department at a residential South African university, for example, is at the University of the Western Cape. The rate of growth here is also of interest, and this is attributed to a changing attitude towards Afrikaans by Prof T. H. Links, head of the department.

There is also a new attitude towards Afrikaans among the ranks of colored and black writers. They too are actively engaged in contributing to the expansion of Afrikaans.

Subject of Study

Dr De Stadler views it as an important plus that Afrikaans is still be offered as a subject of study—regardless of its status as an elective—in black schools.

Furthermore, a strongly pro-Afrikaans attitude has been developing in the recent past in colored education, despite the anti-Afrikaans positions of some individuals. At the 1986 congress of the Cape Professional Educators Union, there was "...a passionate identification with Afrikaans and a refusal to reject that language as a medium of oppression."

Among the ranks of Indians as well, the role of Afrikaans is being looked at with new perspectives. For example, there is a growing tendency to adopt the position that Afrikaans should be offered as a compulsory subject in Indian schools.

Culture

Thus, there are clear signs that there is a new awareness of and appreciation for Afrikaans among the non-white members of the Afrikaans language community, especially as a cultural asset that they want to appropriate for themselves. If this observation is viewed against the background of the numerical perspective shown above, it is clear that this group will probably become one of the most important guardians of Afrikaans in the future, if they are not so already, writes Dr De Stadler.

He also notes that Afrikaans-speakers read much less than their English-language fellow countrymen, and when Afrikaans-speakers do read books they are often English works. In his opinion, the reading habits of the Afrikaans language community merits urgent attention, and should be encouraged to an even greater extent at school. This unhappy state of affairs should naturally not be viewed separately from the availability of good average-level readings.

12271

Teaching of Pre-Van Riebeeck Period History Criticized

34010064a Pretoria *DIE AFRIKANER* in Afrikaans
11 May 88 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Government Wants To Tinker With Whites' Education"]

[Text] Educators and historians are objecting to the recognition of unscientific and politically inspired "history" of the pre-Jan van Riebeeck era, which, in accordance with government policy, is going to be forced upon white children.

The minister of education and development aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, recently held out the prospect of investing the money that the government is going to get from

the sale of state enterprises in new schoolbooks and educational facilities which are to put a revolutionary "core curriculum" into effect. According to Dr Viljoen, it also will be imperative for white children to learn about the history of Africa prior to the time of Jan van Riebeeck. Recognized historians say, however, that the history of black Africa before Jan van Riebeeck can only be archaeology (the study of antiquity), or at most ethnology, but not history. There is nothing reliable which has been written down.

The so-called "new historiography" is heavily Marxist-oriented. Its pioneer was Prof Monica Wilson of the University of Cape Town who gained fame by an extremely controversial "History of South Africa" which she contributed to a British encyclopedia. Afrikaner historians interviewed by DIE AFRIKANER say it is a purely Marxist interpretation of an historical conception which is based just as much on fables as on realities.

Legends

It is said that Dr Viljoen's educational plans are the result of pressure by black politicians. The kind of history taught by leftist black educators under the banner of "people's education"—even in certain government schools under the unseeing eyes of the inspectors from the Ministry of National Education—contains numerous hilariously strange legends. One of them is the tale that the legendary Monomotapa Empire was supposed to have been a large modern state of black statesmen and scientists. An authority on black education has said that a number of details about it, which were dreamt up by someone, are being dished up as history. All sorts of fables under the guise of history have gotten as far as the University of South Africa's textbooks, a lecturer at that institution says. History teaching and research have completely left the field of facts and are being fed by conjecture and archaeological speculation.

It is also maintained that it is impossible to separate the early history of South Africa prior to Jan van Riebeeck from the rest of Africa. The history of those times then becomes just the history of black races, based on archaeology and speculation. If that is to be taught, then an equally good case can be made for the teaching of the history and prehistory of the white races. One would have to go back to the history of the Germanic tribes who were our forefathers—even back to Atlantis, which now has been identified by archaeologists as the present-day Helgoland—a theory supported by hieroglyphic inscriptions in old Egyptian temples. This takes established white history back to about 2,500 years before Christ.

Third World

The equation of unproven speculation concerning early Africa with the known and written history of South Africa since Jan van Riebeeck simply represents the acceptance of Third World standards in history, says Dr J. L. Basson, a noted Pretoria historian who also reflects

the conviction of many of his colleagues in his remarks. It is shocking that the mere oral tradition of blacks which has been uncritically documented and accepted as fact by one white liberal or another should assume the status of historical reality. The liberalism that seeks to teach people that all races are equal causes some people to believe that the history of the various peoples and races must be on the same level. This is a question of belief, and mere subjective belief leads to assumptions which are objectively untenable, says Dr Basson.

If South Africa wishes to maintain scientific standards in its history at all, the Middle Ages, the classical Greeks, the Romans, and the history of Europe's development up to the time of Jan van Riebeeck must remain an element of South Africa's historical conception and its influence on South Africa society must be acknowledged at present and in the future.

13238/06662

Central Witwatersrand Houses 250,000 Squatters 34000645c Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 May 88 p 11

[Text] The central Witwatersrand is home to almost 250,000 squatters living in 44,000 structures, the Central Wits RSC was told last night.

More than 30,000 of these structures are in Soweto, 7,239 are in Diepmeadow, 2,650 in Alexandra and 2,300 in Dobsonville, according to figures tabled at last night's monthly RSC meeting.

Within the White group areas of central Johannesburg there are 97 families living in 81 makeshift homes, in Sandton 288 families in 98 structures, and 21 squatter families in Randburg.

There are some 1,796 squatter families living in Asian areas south of Johannesburg, and including Lenasia.

RSC chairman, Mr Gerrit Bornman, said it could be assumed that there were at least 230,000 squatters in the Central Wits RSC's area, working on a figure of 5.5 people per structure. In many cases more than one family shared a dwelling, he said.

Members of the RSC last night spoke in favour of a draft bill to amend the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act which streamlines the process by which local authorities can establish "transit areas" or emergency squatting camps.

In the case of emergency camps, to be known as transit areas, laws concerning the establishment of townships and town planning do not apply and health laws may be suspended.

Similarly, town planning laws and the Slums Act will not apply in more permanent controlled squatting areas, or "designated areas." The provincial administrator may make them applicable in order to upgrade the area.

Mr Bornman predicted that RSC's would, in future, play a greater role in providing services to designated areas and in identifying land for such purposes.

- The council voted R2.9 million last night for the electrification of three site and service schemes in Soweto.

/9274

New Beach Facilities Needed To Avoid Chaos
34010053c Cape Town DIE BURGER in Afrikaans
8 Apr 88 p 12

[Editorial: "More Resorts and Facilities"]

[Text] One lesson that has hopefully been learned is that adequate facilities must be created on South Africa's beaches in order to prevent chaos with far-reaching implications. The development plan of millions of rands for Cape Province's beaches and interior resorts that is to be undertaken this year testifies to a high level of awareness of these needs.

It is true that Cape Province has a coastline of around 2,000 kilometers, but not all of this can be developed or is suitable for recreation. Just as in Natal, there is a big problem with the overcrowding of resorts that do have facilities.

During the vacation period last December, tension and distasteful incidents surfaced at certain Durban beaches when many more people of all races turned up than the available facilities were intended for. The Cape Peninsula underwent similar experiences several years ago.

Since then, more facilities have been provided on Durban's beaches, and things were calm on Easter weekend, despite the fact that thousands of people were there. On Cape beaches as well, new facilities have meant that some resorts are no longer overcrowded on certain days. It is significant that non-white communities have been visiting resorts closer to them more frequently since development has taken place there.

The Cape Provincial Administration realizes that however the government's policy on beaches is formulated, providing adequate facilities is one of the key elements that must ensure order. This is most closely related to the needs of the respective communities.

Economic development means that an increasing number of non-whites will want to and be able to visit beaches and other resorts, and that the pressure on existing facilities—at interior resorts as well, and not only in Cape Province—will increase correspondingly.

Thus, attention must be given during planning to, among other things, population concentrations, access routes and the location of certain resorts.

Cape Province should be praised for already having undertaken a comprehensive study into the feasibility and potential of developing its entire coast. However, the 28 million rands that the Cape authorities have approved for more facilities is but a drop in the bucket. The provinces deserve all the help they can get from the national government in order to effect a better arrangement in the area of recreation.

12271

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Feasibility Study of Space Program Praised
34010052c Johannesburg FINANSIES & TEGNIEK in Afrikaans 1 Apr 88 p 11

[By Daleen Van Wyk]

[Text] The technology that will be available to South Africa if it undertakes its own space program will provide better information on a variety of matters including mineral resources and weather conditions. This will make it possible to plan better, which will be very advantageous.

This is the opinion of Prof Christo Viljoen, dean of the Engineering Faculty at the University of Stellenbosch. He was reacting to an announcement by Danie Steyn, Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology, that the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has been instructed to carry out a feasibility study for a possible space program.

"A space program is a broad concept that can include a variety of things. But it can bring important advantages by, for instance, making better remote observation possible, which can provide better information on such things as floods. But the possibilities would depend on the aspects finally selected," says Prof Viljoen.

According to Viljoen, the point of departure for such a program is the availability of trained manpower and sufficient money.

"There is already a shortage of engineers in South Africa and the development of a space program would make further demands on available manpower. That is why this must be the first thing looked at," he says.

Prof Louis Van Biljon, executive chairman of the Laboratory for Advanced Engineering at the University of Pretoria, says that a space program could provide new impetus to a variety of technologies.

"Above all, it could be very significant for information technology and metallurgical technology," he says.

Prof Van Biljon expressed the hope that all the universities in this country will be invited to participate in the program.

Neither of the two experts would say what it might cost to develop such a program or some aspect of it such as launch facilities for satellites.

According to the Ministry's statement, it was decided to request a feasibility study because various groups in South Africa and other countries have recently expressed interest in the commercial possibilities of a South African space program.

"There is increasing interest in the private sector in the application of space technology for commercial purposes. The public and private sectors already possess significant technical expertise in this area," the statement said.

It is expected that the study will be ready about the third quarter of this year. It will cover the nature and extent of the program; the practical steps necessary to implement it; the governance framework by which to manage it; and the budget implications.

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